

The Journal

Page XI, No. 33

Thursday, April 17, 1997

50 cents (Tax included)

Mark Friedman named to council

By Dawn Frasier

EL CERRITO — Newly-appointed City Council member Mark Friedman may not yet be a householder in El Cerrito, except as a member of Sustainable El Cerrito for the past year and a half. Friedman, though, brings a wealth of experience in redevelopment and community-building skills and experience as the replacement for a council member who resigned from her seat last month.

In the past two-plus years, Friedman has served as chief of staff for Alameda County supervisor John Chan. He was supervisor Chan's chief of staff for three years prior to that.

Friedman has extensive experience in community development issues and has helped to solve difficult regional problems including the Bay Area's sound manner, retaining help to balance large budgets (Alameda County's \$1 billion), "planning for conversion from a military to a civilian economy" and "developing the West Berkeley area plan."

Friedman, who is 46, has gained a reputation for his work in the area convert from a military-based economy (he chairs the Creation Committee of the Conversion and Reinvestment Commission) and for his leadership in the development of the Berkeley plan, particularly due to his consensus-building skills he has demonstrated in working with residents, the business community, labor unions, environmentalists and development interests in designing an acceptable growth plan for that section of the city.

'Our differences of opinion can then become a strength that will help create more inclusive public policy.'

— MARK FRIEDMAN

At Monday night's council meeting, where Friedman was chosen after a two-hour discussion (see article, page 12), both Mayor Pro Tem Norman La Force and Councilmember Gina Brusatori drew attention to the instrumental part he played in that plan.

A "good track record in dealing with thorny redevelopment issues" was one of the critical factors La Force cited in making his own choice for the vacant seat.

Friedman also believes his consensus-building skills are a strength he brings to the job. He has taught workshops in team building and has facilitated team meetings. He believes "respectful and productive communication" is the key to getting beyond adversarial relationships.

"Our differences of opinion can then become a strength that will

Supes open door to county library assessment measure

By Dawn Frasier

EL CERRITO — The Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors took definite steps forward Tuesday in addressing several of the issues facing the county library system. In so doing, the supervisors also opened the door to a countywide library assessment measure that, now with the support of the involved, should have a chance of passing on its second round.

El Cerrito residents Thom Stark and Janet Hildebrand, who attended the meeting, agreed that the plan didn't address everyone in every aspect but that a compromise reached by the supervisors. The resolution does address much of the concern surrounding the future of the county libraries which are underfunded.

The basic resolution accepted by the Board of Supervisors was crafted by County Administrator Phil Stark and El Cerrito Branch Manager Janet Hildebrand. "It includes clarifications and some

March 11 meeting produced a number of citizen comments on a service study commissioned by the Board of Supervisors last April 15 document is intended to be a compromise to the issues addressed in the study and the public's reaction to its recommendations. The supervisors did add wordsmithing and clarification

of the key issues that has been raised by cities all over the county in their desire for more local monies raised by any assessments are spent. It's one

issue that's kept cities from officially supporting a countywide assessment in the past.

The supervisors will now create five subregional boards consisting of city representatives, a representative from the county and an appointed representative of the unincorporated areas (if applicable). The subregional boards will be given a two-fold charge.

"They will be asked to determine the library service needs and to make recommendations on how those needs can be met," said Stark, noting that only their apportioned Return to Source share of the assessment funds are under the jurisdiction of the new boards.

The county has pledged to continue the current service levels of all branches at 29 hours from its ongoing budget. It will also guarantee 48 hours at current service levels for the system's central library. (The latter clarification was suggested by West after discussions with one of the city mayors.)

Stark noted that adding hours might be one option subregional boards could choose for use of their Return to Source monies. The City of Danville, he said, already supplements its library hours and service levels to the tune of \$.5 million.

Everyone agrees that additional funding is needed from somewhere. Contra Costa County spends \$11.25 per capita per annum on library services. In Alameda County, \$22.24 is spent, in San Francisco County, \$29, and in San Mateo, \$32.

Stark points out, though, that "even though we spend shamefully little money, we have a pretty large collection of books, around 2.5 million, and business, technology and other special collections, all of which are free to any patron of the

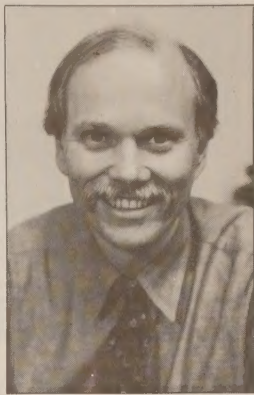


Photo by Jeff Lindquist

New City Councilmember: Mark Friedman

help create more inclusive public policy," he said.

Friedman serves on the East Bay Conversion and Reinvestment Commission, the Alameda County Lead Poisoning Prevention Joint Powers Authority, the Alameda Reuse and Redevelopment Authority, and non-profit boards including the Youth Employment Partnership, Center for Economic Conversion, and the West Berkeley Neighborhood Development Corporation.

He chairs the Alliance for Public Education in West County and was recently appointed to represent El Cerrito on the Contra Costa Transportation Partnership Advisory Board.

In his application cover letter, Friedman stated his reason for applying for the vacant council seat.

"I have dedicated my career to public service by directing non-profit community organizations and working for local government," he said. "I am excited about applying

See COUNCIL, page 12

City faces legal mire before cardroom can become reality

By Greg Hugunin

ALBANY — Nearly three years ago, on May 25, 1994, a group of citizen volunteers known as the Albany Fiscal Task Force made a recommendation to the City Council. Faced with a projected budget deficit which would have eventually bankrupted the city had it proved accurate (it did not), the task force recommended the council study the possibility of a cardroom at Golden Gate Fields.

In August, over some objection, some encouragement and much emotion from both sides of what turned out to be a ferocious debate, the council concluded their study and voted 4-1 to place the cardroom on the ballot. Nearly a quarter of a million dollars would be provided by Ladbroke Racing Corp. to promote the project to city voters — that, a few environmental concessions, and a guaranteed \$1.2 million a year in tax revenue.

On Nov. 8, 1994, nearly two-and-a-half years ago,

Albany voters were faced with the seemingly simple, yes or no question, posed by Measure F: should a cardroom at which "controlled games permitted by law, such as draw poker, low ball poker and Panguingue (PAN)" be allowed at Golden Gate Fields?

Of the nearly 7,000 city residents who made their way to polling places that day, 3,281 said yes, and 3,095 said no (449 did not vote on Measure F at all). The issue was far from resolved though, at least in the minds of some, and today, in 1997, that vote appears to have been only the beginning.

In the wake of the second lawsuit over the proposed cardroom at the racetrack, filed by the Citizens for Responsible Government last week, one thing seems clear: a cardroom is not going to happen any time soon. The citizen-based group, which raises money through garage sales and personal loans from board members, plans to fight to the bitter end, and, as they see it, to

See MIRE, page 12

Buttons by the bushel

By Dawn Frasier

It's got to be one of the tiniest little shops in El Cerrito, but it may well be the most widely known. Look through just the first few pages of Vince and Mary Sortile's guest book, and you'll find they've had visitors from England and Kansas, Massachusetts and Italy, Alberta, Jerusalem, Taiwan, Denmark and Tennessee.

Some visitors have included El Cerrito on their itineraries precisely because it's home to Exclusive Buttons. After all, it's a unique offering in the country. The Sortiles know of only one similar shop in the United States; it's in New York City, and that store makes referrals to El Cerrito.

"It's actually quite different," says Vince Sortile. "They carry more actual antiques than we do, and they're far more expensive. We have a much larger inventory and a much wider variety of types of buttons."

When Sortile refers to antique buttons, he's defining a certain age. His own shop includes some buttons that are 100 to 150 years old. He was delighted, for example, to be able to purchase the button collec-



Photo by Jeff Lindquist

Vince Sortile surrounded by drawers and racks of buttons.

See BUTTONS, page 36

See LIBRARY, page 12

AMS students get head start on Earth Day Kids review four Rs, schedule work on community garden

By Greg Hugunin

ALBANY — As part of a cutting-edge, waste-reduction education program, students at Albany Middle School have been talking — and writing about — trash.

As a supplement to Project Create, coordinated by the Oakland-based East Bay Depot for Creative Reuse, sixth-grade students piled onto buses earlier this year and took a field trip to "The Pit" at the Davis Street Transfer Station in San Leandro. There, they saw first-hand the facility through which just about every piece of trash thrown away in Albany passes.

Beset by a stench of nearly epic proportions, students donned hardhats and bright orange work vests, scaled a narrow metal platform and gazed into the abyss — a 25-foot-deep concrete chasm through which six million pounds of garbage pass daily before being transferred to the Altamont Landfill. Afterward, they learned about the four R's — Reduce, Reuse, Recycle and Rot — at the transfer station's education center.

Since then, the students donned their thinking caps and set the experience to paper, chipping their two cents into the countywide effort to reduce waste output by 50 percent by the year 2,000. Between 1990 and 1995, Albany reduced its waste output by a hefty 42 percent.

As Joanna Pace, a teacher at the middle school, said at the time, waste-reduction comes down to a few simple changes of habit — buying goods with less packaging, for example. At "The Pit," students saw, and smelled, first-hand the consequences of not doing so, and it apparently made an impression.

"I think what they got out of it is just how much waste is produced in our culture on a daily basis," says middle school teacher Suzanne Ingley.

But why should The Journal ramble on? Instead, we shall allow the youth to speak for themselves:

Why Should We Recycle?
By Eddy Chow

So kids like us wouldn't have to take field trips to the dump and hear about how nobody recycles. There's

a lot of things we can do to help. For starters, try the four R's. Which I will explain to you now.

The first R-word is Reuse. Many things can be reused. One example is clothes. We always reuse clothes. What if there were disposable clothes? Then people would have to buy lots of clothes. Why not reuse clothes? (even though we do, I'm trying to prove a point.) Just like cloth bags. I do a lot of studying in reptiles and amphibians. I catch them all the time and put them in jars that I reuse, of course. You can also reuse cloth bags. In some places people must pay for plastic bags. And cloth is stronger, anyways.

The next word is Recycle. Recycling is good for the earth because the more things you throw away that are recyclable the more trash the dump has, and the more trash the dump has the more it stinks! In conclusion, do yourself and the earth a favor and please Recycle.

The Four Rs
By Daniel Reichman

Reduce
I think reducing is the most im-

portant "R." I think and know this because if we didn't have so much waste then we wouldn't have to reuse, recycle, or rot it. Reducing does not mean buying or consuming as much as we normally do. It means not making as much waste with what we do buy. Think about it. When you go to the supermarket do you look for the product that's best environmentally packaged? No. You look for the best buy or what you like.

We should really reduce how much garbage we generate. Landfills are filling and space is running out. We can't just dump all our garbage into the ocean. We can't send garbage out into space. What if we ran out of space and garbage started piling up around us? We need to find a good solution but an OK current solution is to reduce.

Rot
Rotting is important for our organic materials. We can't recycle things like apple cores, orange peels, and seeds, but we can compost them. Composting or rotting

See EARTH DAY, page 33

■ Commentary

Don't turn back clock on childhood diseases

Back in 1927, when I was four years old, I developed diphtheria. I remember being in the hospital for one week, because the doctors were afraid I might choke on diphtheria membrane.

When I was seven years old, I developed whooping cough for six weeks. I was lucky. I recovered without any problems. My friend Jimmy was not so lucky. He died.

Summertime was the time parents became frantic because this was polio season. We could not go swimming, we could not go to the movies and we could not get together in groups. When the summer was over and none of us developed polio, our parents gave a sigh of relief.

In 1951, when I was training in a large metropolitan hospital, I remember the four hospital wards filled with "iron lungs." An iron lung is a large cylinder in which a person with respiratory polio is put. The iron lung helps people breathe. The only part of the body that was out of the iron lung was the head — and the only view of the world was from a mirror hanging from the top of the machine.

Today, as a parent and grandparent, I don't have the same fears and worries that my parents had. We now have vaccines for many diseases. However, only about 50 percent of the children in California are fully immunized by two years of age. This is an opening for an epidemic that shouldn't happen.

Two hundred years ago, an English physician, Dr. Edward Jenner, discovered that disease could be prevented by immunizing patients. Modern medical research has continued to develop a wide range of disease-preventing vaccines, however, many parents do not take advantage of these advances in medical science and have not had their children immunized properly.

Last year in California, there were 46 cases of measles, and 724 cases of whooping cough, including a 6-week-old Bakersfield baby girl who died. Only 57 percent of the children in California are fully immunized by their second birthday. That

makes 43 percent of California's children susceptible to highly contagious, harmful diseases which can cause permanent disability or death. California is also below the national average in the percentage of children immunized.

During National Infant Immunization Week, April 20-26, and Toddler Immunization Month in May, the California Coalition for Childhood Immunization (C3I) and its many partners across the state are working to educate parents about available immunization services. We hope to achieve a 90 percent immunization rate among 2-year-olds by the year 2000. But success depends upon parents taking action.

As a parent, it is your responsibility and duty to make sure your children are immunized at the proper time. Your doctor can give your children these vaccines. To be fully protected, young children need to get all their immunizations on time. Many parents mistakenly think their child is protected because they've taken their baby once or twice for shots. But babies need a whole series of shots given on schedule at two, four, six, 12, and 15 months.

Even if you think you're sure, please ask your doctor or health care provider if your children have all the shots they need for their age. If you don't have insurance or money to pay for vaccines, free vaccines are available through doctors' offices, county health departments and the Kids Care Fair. You can also call the Centers for Disease Control Hotline at 1-800-232-2522 to receive a referral to a local immunization clinic.

Please make sure your children are properly immunized. If they don't, take the time to make sure they get them. Their precious lives depend on it. We need not go back to the days of fear and worry over deadly diseases. Immunize your children today — tomorrow may be too late.

Arthur Lisbin, M.D., F.A.A.P.,
Childhood Health Consultant

■ Letters to the Editor

City planning off track

(The Journal received a copy of the following letter to Edward Phillips in the City of El Cerrito's Planning Division:)

Mr. Phillips:

Having been involved in city affairs for almost 30 years, I am here to testify that the "Del Norte BART Project" is a perfect example of how city planning can get incrementally off track.

People who have been around here since before BART can recall the arguments for locating stations in El Cerrito. (Albany wasn't buying it.) There would be less reliance on the automobile and therefore less pollution. The environmental argument has been for "infill" housing, especially near public transportation, for the same reasons and to help prevent endless suburban sprawl.

El Cerrito accepted BART stations and the idea of infill high-density nearby. So much for that.

Sprawl continued with the result that, lacking a BART or light-rail system further north, the Del Norte station attracted people who live north and east.

To reduce solid parking on streets for blocks around the station, there came a three-storey parking structure. That soon filled up as did any likely parking spaces within walking distance and we are now back to square one.

Now a charming developer comes along and wants to add an attractive nuisance in the form of a huge theater. To accommodate the very traffic we were attempting to reduce in the first place, he proposes a three-level parking garage. A worse crime magnet it is hard to imagine in addition to adding to the stationary pollution source already existing!

If all this is approved, you can be sure that the next request will be for a huge sign to attract more cars off the freeway to the proposed theater. Proximity to the freeway would be the main reason for proposing a theater near Del Norte rather than at the Plaza, where all other favorable elements already exist.

Which gets me to the last point which is, of the alternatives considered in the report, my vote is for moving the cinema to the Plaza BART shopping center and go ahead with the expanded residential and retail development at the Del Norte station, since that is what we had agreed to all along. Little

or no extra parking should be included in the plans in accord with the city's long-held social contract with its citizens.

Virginia Rice Mason
El Cerrito

Alliance doesn't speak for me!

Editor:

As an El Cerrito resident, I am writing to express my support for the El Cerrito City Council and the way it has handled the difficult issues involved in revitalizing El Cerrito Plaza. I think they have done an admirable job in trying to develop a plan for the Plaza and in selecting a responsible development team that can make something work for the city.

I am most disturbed by the small group of critics called "El Cerrito Citizens Alliance," who claim that the city council did not get community input in the planning for the Plaza.

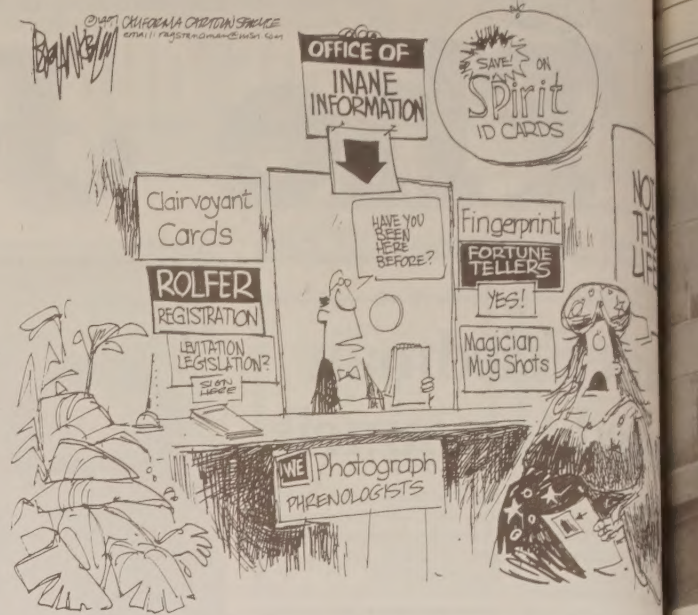
This does not ring true with my observations and the "Alliance" certainly does not speak for me. To the contrary, I think the city council went well beyond what is required or expected. First, they had a series of community meetings with a professional facilitator, Bruce Race, to develop a set of basic concepts to guide planning. This became the concept plan. The city council then held a public hearing on this plan.

Next, the city council made this plan an important element in the criteria for the selection of a development team. After that selection process, they held a further series of community meetings with the developer to refine and rework the developer's plan in conjunction with the city's concept plan. The city also held two council meetings where people could present their views on that site plan and brought the plan to the Plaza itself for further community input during the farmer's markets.

In response, the critics claimed that this entire process was rigged and manipulated by the city council. Of course, this same small group has claimed that every decision the city council makes that they do not like is also a rigged decision or a "done deal."

I wonder if the real problem is that the "Alliance" cannot accept the fact that other informed citizens disagree with them and do not share their views. But

See LETTERS, page 3



■ Police Reports

Youth apprehended for burglary

ALBANY—At about 10:30 a.m. on April 9, a resident on the 800 block of Evelyn Avenue reported that while he was in his bedroom he heard a rattling in his garage below.

When he looked out the window he observed a juvenile in a green jacket walking away from his garage door. He went outside but the youth was gone and the garage door was partly open and the lock was missing. Officers located the youth, a 14-year-old Richmond boy, on the BART path. He was found with bolt cutters and the missing lock in his possession. He was arrested for being in possession of burglary tools and for burglary and transferred to Juvenile Hall.

On the after of April 6, Albany officers observed a man pushing a baker's rack on Cleveland Avenue near Buchanan Street. Upon questioning they found he was from Richmond and could not prove the rack belonged to him. He was arrested for theft, cited and released.

On the morning of April 7, the custodian at Marin School reported that over the weekend vandals had sprayed graffiti on the school buildings. There were no witnesses.

On the afternoon of April 7, a resident on the 900 block of Stannage Avenue reported that he had left his house at about 11:30 a.m. that day. When he returned at about 2 p.m., he discovered that someone had broken into his home through the kitchen window. There were no witnesses.

At about 3 p.m., on April 7, an Albany boy reported that a youth he described as a black male juvenile stole his 21-speed Mongoose bike and rode away. This occurred on the 1300 block of Portland Avenue. Police are investigating.

At about 9:45 p.m. on April 7, residents observed three black male juveniles, ages 13 to 14 years old, steal a bike from a Riley Drive apartment and head toward San Pablo Avenue. They were gone when officers arrived.

On the morning of April 8, a resident on the 400 block of Stannage Avenue reported that her garage had been broken into and

that a purple mountain bike had been stolen. There were no witnesses.

At about 8:30 p.m. on April 8, a resident reported that his 8-year-old son was attacked by two juveniles while he was on his way home from Cornell School. Police are investigating.

On the afternoon of April 9 a man reported that while he was walking in a crosswalk on the 1300 block of Solano Avenue he was almost hit by a man driving a blue/silver Mercedes with a handicap sticker. He and the driver exchanged words and the driver hit the pedestrian with his fist. The attacker was last seen going north on Santa Fe. Police are investigating.

At about 12:45 a.m., Albany officers responded to reports of a man, possibly drunk, standing on a corner at Madison Avenue and Buchanan Street and shouting. Officers contacted a transient man who was intoxicated. He was arrested and cited to be released when sober.

At about 2 a.m. on April 10, a resident on the 500 block of Pierce Street reported that when he came home from work he observed a subject, possibly a male, running out of the garage. He then noticed that the window of his van, which was parked in the garage, had been broken. Officers took the report. On the afternoon of April 11, a bicycle business on Solano Avenue reported that two juveniles, described as black males about 10 years old, wearing dark shirts, stole two chrome BMX bikes. They were gone when officers arrived.

Shortly before midnight on April 11, Albany officers stopped an El Sobrante man on San Pablo Avenue near Washington Avenue for a traffic violation. He was found to have outstanding warrants from San Francisco. He was arrested and cited with a Notice to Appear.

At about 3:30 a.m. on April 12, Albany officers stopped a Richmond man riding a bike for traffic violation. He was found to have a No Bail warrant from Oakland. He was arrested, booked and transported to the Oakland jail.

Zero crimes of violence reported

EL CERRITO — There were no violent crimes reported.

A residential burglary was reported in the 7500 block of Lynn Avenue. Someone entered an unlocked window during the daytime or evening March 25. Jewelry, a VCR and other items were reported stolen.

Two Richmond male juveniles were arrested for an attempted residential burglary in the 0-100 block of Pomona Avenue at about 12:04 p.m. April 2. The youth are accused of cutting a garage lock and attempting entry before they were scared off by the residents.

A Rohnert Park man was arrested for the residential burglary of a storage shed in the 5800 block of Avila during the early morning hours of April 2. He is accused of smashing the garage door and lock for entry and ransacking the shed; nothing was reported stolen. He was also found to be under the influence of drugs at the time.

Five Richmond male juveniles were arrested in the 6600 block of

Donal Avenue for attempting to cut the lock off a residential garage with bolt cutters at 10:32 a.m. April 8.

Two Richmond male juveniles were arrested in the 400 block of Clayton Avenue at about 1:35 p.m. April 2. The youth are suspected of cutting the garage lock with bolt cutters, entering and stealing a mountain bike.

A San Rafael man was arrested for driving under the influence at San Pablo Avenue and Knott at 12:56 a.m. April 2. He and a female passenger (a transient) were also accused of possession of methamphetamines.

A Ferrysville, Wisconsin man was arrested at Hill and San Pablo at 5:20 a.m. April 8 for driving under the influence and possession of methamphetamines.

Three men (residents of El Cerrito, San Jose and Santa Clara) were arrested at 5:40 a.m. April 6, one for driving under the influence, two for being intoxicated in public.

Five arrests were made for driving under the influence: a Monterey

proprietor of a liquor store on the 800 block of San Pablo Avenue reported that he was a shoplifter. Officers issued a 40-year-old Richmond man also had several outstanding warrants and a warrant from Costa County for possession of a stolen car was arrested and cited to Appear.

On the afternoon of April 9, a resident on the 400 block of Stannage Avenue reported that someone had tried to break into his '95 Honda Civic by the back lock. There were no witnesses.

On the evening of April 9, a resident on the 400 block of Stannage Avenue reported that a senger window of his 1995 Toyota Tercel had been broken while the car was parked in his carport. There were no witnesses.

At about 8:30 a.m. on April 10, a resident on the 900 block of Route Blvd. reported that the night vandals had broken his car. There were no witnesses.

On the morning of April 10, a resident on the 1300 block of Solano Avenue reported that the night thieves had stolen his '89 Nissan. There were no witnesses.

At about 1 p.m. on April 11, reported that thieves had broken a cellular phone form him. The phone was parked in the parking lot of Mary's High School. There were no witnesses.

On the morning of April 11, a resident on the 900 block of Stannage Avenue reported that thieves had burglarized his '85 Toyota Corolla. There were no witnesses.

During the week of April 12, officers fingerprinted eight of their request, towed and responded to 16 false domestic violence calls, attended to four lost or stolen animals, assisted eight people who were locked out of their cars and responded to two calls of barking dogs. Albany paramedics responded to 11 calls and 13 medical emergencies.

Park man at San Pablo Avenue at 11:40 p.m. April 7, a man at Carlson and Clayton at 8:21 a.m. April 8, an El Cerrito man at Kearney and Stockton at 3:50 a.m. April 9, a man at San Pablo Avenue at 6:45 p.m. April 9, an arrest at Schmidt and BART at 1:45 a.m. April 9.

Two Richmond male juveniles were arrested for attempting to break into a padlock of a soda machine at a grocery store on Macdonald Avenue at 6:45 p.m. April 9. A Richmond man was arrested for possession of a stolen plate, a controlled substance and an instrument for smoking a substance. The arrest was at the 11600 block of San Pablo Avenue at 11:47 p.m. April 9.

A Richmond man was arrested for brandishing a weapon at Silver Dollar restaurant at 4:30 p.m. April 9.

An Oakland man reported

See POLICE

The Journal

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Editorial Office: (510) 339-4056

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Laura Schweitzer, left, and Xiaomang Ba sang in the 1997 All State Choir in Pasadena.

HS students perform in All State choir

ALBANY — Two students from Albany High School recently participated in the 1997 California All State Choir in Pasadena. Laura Schweitzer and Xiaomang Ba, both juniors, were among 79 young women and 76 young men chosen from all of California to participate in the All State Choir. The participants were chosen based on their vocal talent at the three regional honor choirs held the previous fall. This year's All State Honor Choir, held April 5, was directed by Dr. Eph Ehly from the Conservatory of Music/University of

Missouri-Kansas City, where he is chair of the Vocal Studies Division. Dr. Ehly holds a Doctorate in Musical Arts from the University of Colorado and Master of Music from the George Peabody College in Nashville. The choir is sponsored each year by the California Music Educators Association. This was the 50th anniversary of the CMEA, which held its annual statewide convention in Pasadena. Choir and instrumental instructors throughout the state belong and participate in CMEA events.

This year's All State Honor Choir

performed pieces by Mendelssohn, Mozart and Pablo Casals as part of the concert. The choir also performed an American jazz piece entitled, "Birth of the Blues" arranged by Strommen and an African piece entitled "O Sifuni Mungu" arranged by Maddux. The choir delighted the audience with "surround sound" music and with a variety of solos and instrumental accompaniments.

This is the first year that Xiaomang, an alto, has participated in the choir. It is the third year for Laura, a soprano.

Letters to the Editor

Continued from page 2

what really concerns me is that this small group has begun to make personal attacks on city council members and citizens who do not support them. These attacks include name calling and accusations of backroom conspiracies.

One of their leaders creates crude cartoons that make fun of our city and city council members. They also go after ordinary citizens who dare to express their views. In this very column I have read letters from this group making personal attacks on interested citizens for writing letters expressing views contrary to their own.

This same group has tried to take control of city council meetings with long speeches and diatribes. They have booed and hissed speakers at city council meetings when they have expressed views contrary to their own. Their conduct is such that some residents have felt too intimidated to speak out for fear of incurring this group's wrath. Thank goodness the city council finally adopted reasonable measures, similar to virtually all other public agencies, to control such disrespectful behavior.

We should all recognize the "Alliance's" tactics as a peevish ploy that rings hollow.

It troubles me that the people who complain the most about the supposed lack of community input are the ones who have done their best to drive people away when they disagree with the "Alliance's" preconceived ideas about the Plaza. It is time the so-called El Cerrito Citizens Alliance listened, as our city council has always done, and treated others with the respect they deserve, despite their opposing points of view.

Christopher Chenoweth
El Cerrito

Kensington voters beware!

Editor:

If you are a Kensington property owner who has been mailed a ballot for you to vote on an assessment on your property by the Kensington Police Protection and Community Services District, be certain that your ballot has been physically delivered to and is in the possession of said District before the public hearing on May 6, 1997.

Article XIII D of the California Constitution (Proposition 218) authorizes only one public hearing on an assessment, provides that the public hearing must be conducted not less than 45 days after mailing notice of a proposed assessment, and provides "At the public hearing, the agency shall ... tabulate the ballots."

The envelope containing my ballot and Notice of Hearing was postmarked April 5, 1997. The Notice of Hearing scheduled two public hearings, one on May 6, 1997 and one on May 28, 1997. The May 6 hearing is within the 45-day period, the May 28 hearing is not. Only the May 6 hearing comes within the scope of Proposition 218 and, pursuant to the provisions thereof, the ballots must be tabulated at the May 6 hearing.

The ballot specifically states:

"In order to be counted, this ballot must be returned either by mail or in person before 4 p.m. on Wednesday, May 28, 1997..."

Don't you believe it. Your ballot can only be tabulated "at the public hearing" on May 6, 1997, and "At the public hearing" means that all ballots must be tabulated during the public hearing, not "counted after completion of public hearings on the proposed assessment," as stated in the ballot, and not counted before.

Raymond H. Hawkins
Kensington

Good government doesn't require cable coverage

Editor:

I read in the *West County Times* "Letters From Our Readers" of April 2 that Ms. Victoria Hughes believes the El Cerrito Council was "arrogant" in suspending the coverage of council meetings on cable TV. Far from being arrogant, the council made a wise decision, one that is designed to serve all of El Cerrito's residents rather than the disgruntled few.

Ms. Hughes asks what has happened to the "Concept that council members are supposed to be there for the people, representing our needs and wants"? The answer is absolutely nothing has happened to that concept. Efficient and effective government does not require listening to a parade of people, speaking at inordinate length, often with respect to subjects not even on the evening's agenda.

It is a travesty on municipal government to have a council meeting (that of February 3rd), with two agenda items, last until 11 p.m. The days when all citizens gathered under an oak tree on Saturday morning to decide what should be done are long gone. Let the elected representatives of El Cerrito's citizens conduct the city's business without the burden of a few people pandering to the TV audience. The remedy for disgruntled citizens is the

See LETTERS, page 4

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Recycling. Remember to set recyclables at the curb each week and lawn & garden materials every other week on your regular trash collection day. Call for a bin sticker, schedule or brochure.


Adopt-A-Tree. Beautify Albany neighborhoods. Choose a tree from a City-approved list and pay \$37/tree (\$44 for concrete removal). The tree will be planted in winter 1997.

Get out of the Car. Spring is here and the weather is great, enjoy it. Keep pollution out of the air. Car pool, take the bus, ride a bike. It can be said that bicycling is the most energy-efficient form of transportation. Bike riding can transport one more miles per unit of energy expended than any other method of transportation in the world.

Help Clean A Creek
Attend one or both of these Creek Clean-Up Events. Refreshments provided. Wear old clothes & bring gloves. **April 19, 1997** (9am - 12noon, meet at the El Cerrito Creekside Park, north of Pierce Street, BBQ to follow). **May 3, 1997** (10am - 1pm, meet at Cerrito Creek on the south side of the El Cerrito Plaza).

For more information on Albany's Environmental Resource programs, call the City of Albany, Community Development & Environmental Resources Department. (510) 528-5760

For curbside motor oil collection containers, call Waste Management of Alameda County at (510) 613-8710



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Lesser-known exhibit reveals the beauty of works in wood

There is a warmth and beauty in wood that is found in no other medium. This long-held feeling was heightened the other day when I visited the "Expressions in Wood: Masterworks from the Wormick Collection" exhibit at the Oakland Museum.

Sadly, this wonderful exhibit has not really been publicized, except for an excellent piece about it in the *Winter* issue of the museum. For the most part people have found it because it is next door to the very popular (and rightly so) recycled art exhibit.

The pieces in the wood are all turned (and Connie Mississippi's article about it explains the lathe and turning beautifully), and the results are magnificent. Bowls so light and thin that they are translucent.

Pieces that combine the beauty of finished and polished wood with the equal beauty of the original wood — often burl, and some imaginative pieces such as the scarf thrown across a bowl. You could swear it is really material, and though you cannot, of course, touch the pieces, you ache to assure yourself that it is indeed wood.

I love the pieces made of exotic woods, and those where the grain is the most important decoration. But there are painted pieces, too, that are fascinating, even one that you would swear was a Native American basket. A not-to-be-missed show, but hurry, it soon will be traveling.

A next-door exhibit of recycled art is also fascinating. I thought I knew what it would entail, but I was nowhere near the actuality. A chaise longue made of aluminum drink cans? Clothing, jewelry, furniture, art objects. How about a dog made of hair brushes, bottle and thumb caps, a Citroen pedal and an umbrella handle?

Community Folk

By Clara Rae Genser



It's called "Hello Again" and it is wonderful to behold.

I manage to visit the Oakland Museum of California far too rarely. What joy to find two such great exhibits in one day.

This column is called Community Folk, and many folk in this community belong to Kaiser. Are you all asking the same questions that plague me?

Kaiser is a nonprofit facility, yes? Then why is it important that the membership grow? The administration complains that membership is "flat." So?

And why does a nonprofit need a profitable "bottom line"?

And if it is not-for-profit what is it for? I would have said for its members. Doesn't that make sense? But now I'm not sure.

It is for its members that Registered Nurses are being replaced by the lesser trained Licensed Vocational Nurses? Kaiser employs both now, to very good effect, each doing what she/he is trained to do. But replace the RNs with LVNs?

Is it for its members that hospitals are being closed, and emergency and ICU facilities are being lost? And is it for the members that hospital stays are being shortened abruptly?

I have been proud to be a member of Kaiser for many years, but these questions are haunting me now.

And on the subject of questions, here is one that I ask every time I open my mail of late. Why do all of the charities and agencies send their pleading letters at the same time? Doesn't everyone react by becoming numb to the usually very sad stories they usually tell?

My first reaction is "this is terrible, and I must do what I can." Then I open the next letter, and the next, and the next, and each is

needier than the one before, and each is a true exposition of what is happening to cause such need. But after the first few, I find myself numbed and weary. I cannot answer them all, and I have trouble deciding which needs me more, so I put them aside...

And the telephone calls! Even from organizations I know of and admire. I just cannot take them, and must tell them that I don't respond to telephone calls. But they do keep coming.

Thank you for letting me get that one off my chest.

I met Dr. Elias Katz again, and it reminded me of the very fine agency he and his late artist wife created: NIAD, National Institute of Arts and Disabilities. NIAD has been more and more in the news of late. It is being recognized for its art as well as of the work it does with disabled people — both of which are intertwined, since the art is by the disabled people. The latest story is about a NIAD artist whose work has been recognized nationally and is in several galleries around the country.

A wonderful facility, doing great work, giving meaning and dignity to the lives of people who, a few years ago, would have no hope of either. NIAD is located in Richmond on 23rd Street just above Barrett Avenue. It is open to visitors, and is a fascinating place to visit.

One of the few good things about becoming a senior is being able to take part in "day trips" put on by many groups and organizations. There are so many fascinating things to see and to learn. I am constantly amazed at the variety of places such day trips go.

My latest one was with the Ber-

See FOLK, page 6

Letters to the Editor

Continued from page 3

ballot box — not the television camera.

Television has done little or nothing to enhance the process of governance in El Cerrito, or to facilitate the communication of important information to citizens.

Since television viewers have no access to the council agenda during the broadcast, and no way to review staff reports or even see (let alone read) exhibits displayed in the council chambers, the television broadcast of council meetings does not represent communication with the citizens of El Cerrito in any real and meaningful sense. I believe there are better ways to utilize the city's limited fiscal resources to achieve this important objective, such as:

1. Special programming on key city issues
2. Taping and broadcasting special city events
3. Promoting community-based programs and activities.

I believe that the council is making, in a fiscally responsible manner, a much-needed reassessment of its meeting procedures. In so doing, it deserves commendation and support, rather than vilification and abuse.

John A. Sproul
El Cerrito

No thanks, Cablevision

Editor:

Since nobody at the P.U.C. or my local city government seems empowered to help me with a complaint against T.C.I. Cablevision, I'd like to share it with your readers.

I went out of town without paying my cable bill. I found my cable service not operating when I returned. Phoning T.C.I. all morning finally got me a recording advising "A 5- to 7-minute wait for an operator." A trip to their office revealed "disconnection of service due to nonpayment."

As of January 1, 1997, T.C.I. no longer sends a "Cablegram" to warn you of a pending disconnection, according to the cableperson. It's all explained in the fine print on your statement. Now they cut you off A.S.A.P., and after your balance is paid, they will reconnect you for \$50!

A reminder of my 15 years as a customer got an offer to waive the new monthly deposit. The supervisor I tried to talk to was just a friendly stone wall.

Well T.C.I., thanks, but no thanks. We're saving up for a satellite dish, and are looking forward to a Disney channel without snow.

Jeff Dutton
El Cerrito

Halt uncivilized behavior

Editor:

The audience at the last two El Cerrito Council meetings threw numerous insults at council members, spoke out of turn, many times interrupting whichever council member was speaking.

This would sometimes provoke some members from a council member which would involve greeted with hoots or jeers. My first-grade son would tell you that they were on a "conflict" tor."

These are not the tactics of people who are honestly trying to change policy. What are we trying to accomplish? Rational argument by people with genuine differences of opinion for the good of El Cerrito at heart is good for our city in this way new points of view or new approach a problem are considered.

However what I watched Monday night a few weeks ago was destructive and very bad for El Cerrito. The few good points made by council members were obfuscated by contentious posturing.

If you haven't been to a City Council meeting a while I suggest you attend one and see the civility for yourself. Then let's do what we can to end this unbusinesslike behavior at City Council meetings so we can get on with business.

What's the legal opinion?

(The Journal received this copy of the letter to El Cerrito City Attorney Howard L. ...)

I am writing on behalf of the many residents of the Del Norte neighborhood, organized under the name "Save Del Norte."

1. We feel that the way the council handled the response time in the Key/Knott Boulevard (Agenda Item 3) during last Monday's meeting was a violation of the Brown Act. Surely a neighborhood spokesperson must be given adequate time to respond to technical arguments. In this particular case I have 14 points of disagreement with the engineer's report. I was prevented from responding in spite of many residents offering me their allotment.

I would like your legal opinion, in writing, on this matter.

2. We believe that a court reporter should be used to record statements made during the April ...

See LETTERS

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Al Caruso Insurance is a full-service agency offering all lines including: life, health, disability, auto, home, business and commercial insurance. He and his four associates whom he describes as, "the finest support staff west of the Mississippi," have added Group Health Insurance to their portfolio of products and are contracted with Kaiser, Blue Cross and Blue Shield.

"We have been at our current location for 25 years," says Caruso. "We are the largest insurance agency in Kensington and are celebrating our 25th anniversary as a Farmers Insurance Group Agency this year. Caruso attributes his continued success to how much his company cares about their clients. 'At Al Caruso Agency, the customer is king' he says. 'It is the reason they keep coming back.'"

Caruso enjoys serving clients from all socio-economic groups. His many years in the insurance business provide him with a unique perspective on the changes it has gone through. "Years ago the business was in turmoil," he says. "People would switch agents to save a small amount of money. Today people stay with the agent they trust." This philosophy found resonance in the community and led to the expansion of Caruso Insurance to a second location on Colusa Ave. six years ago.

Al Caruso Insurance can be found on the Web at www.grouphealth-care.com. Caruso hopes the Web will

BUSINESS FOCUS

by Laura Fischer

offer a greater number of people the opportunity to take advantage of the quality and reliability of his services. "We provide security and safety for the people who use our agency," he says. "Our intention is to offer you superior service with a smile."

Al Caruso Insurance is located at 367 and 371 Colusa Ave. in Kensington. For further information or to make an appointment, call 527-4640, or fax to 527-4234. Monday - Friday, 9-5. Saturday and evening appointments are available.



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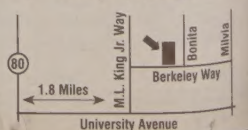
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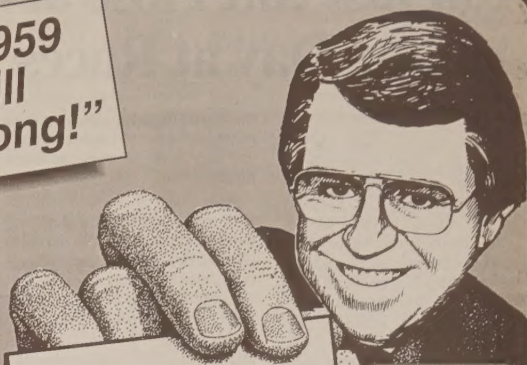


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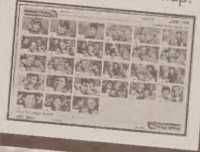
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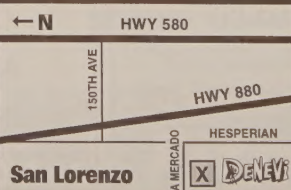
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You just can't lose at Albany Day at Races

Albany Day at the Races

Music, entertainment for both children and adults, great food and fun for all will be available at Albany Day at the Races, Saturday, April 26 at Golden Gate Fields.

Welcoming guests will be Chamber of Commerce representatives and the Albany Booster Band which is made up of 20 big band musicians from Albany and Berkeley High schools and a handful of adults, led by Albany Citizen of the Year, Frank Jensen. The band will play oldies, jazz and swing from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. An Astrojump will be near the north gate entrance for the little ones.

Winners of the Albany Day at

the Races drawing names will be posted at the Albany welcome table and later at the Chamber of Commerce.

This event is open to families with many making it a day long outing. Guests should use the north (Buchanan Street) entrance for general admission and the reserved seating. The drawing tickets sold and those mailed from Golden Gate Fields will give general admission and the reserved seating near the finish line.

A "welcome table" will be placed inside the north gate for guests to visit and from there they will be instructed on how to get their reserved seats. Children under 18 will be admitted free with a paid adult.

Albany Chamber of Commerce

By Fern Luoma



Golden Gate Fields will be mailing free admission tickets to Albany and El Cerrito households. This is part of Albany Day.

Seven eating areas serving food from hamburgers, hot dogs, Italian food, baked potato, corn on the cob, barbecue sandwiches to a micro brew located at the Paddock Pub are just a few items served throughout the first two levels. The Turf Club on the upper level offers gourmet items. Reservations are needed for this location on Saturdays.

Those wishing drawing tickets can pick them up at the chamber office, 1108 Solano Ave. The tickets are \$1 each or six for \$5. Each ticket gives free admission for Albany Day, a discount coupon for food at Gina's Italian Restaurant located at 600 San Pablo Ave. and free admission to the track with reserved seating. Phone 525-1771 for additional information.

New members

A "Mr. and Mrs. Team" own and operate the **Restoran Rasa Sayang Restaurant**, 977 San Pablo Ave., one working days and the other takes the evening and night shift.

Natives of Malaysia, Rama and Sundri Krishnasamy, restaurant owners, share in the operation, she during the day and he takes the later hours. Serving Malaysian, Singaporean and Chinese cuisine, there are more than 70 menu items to select from including appetizers, soups, rice and noodles, salads, vegetables, chicken, lamb, seafood, the Malaysian Hawkers Corner, bread specialties, desserts and beverages, including wine and beer. A new

menu is being planned now.

A favorite entree is Redang Ayam, a spicy marinated boneless chicken cooked with lemon grass, lime leaves and served in a thick coconut gravy. A "must have" is the Roti Chanal, a Malaysian Indian bread served with dhal curry. The bread is typical for Malaysian and Indian appetites. It is made of several layers and making it is considered a work of art as it must be prepared properly and expertly. Many customers purchase the bread to eat at home. Another favorite food is Nasi Briyani Ayam, basmati rice cooked with chicken and served with chicken kurma (mild yellow curry) and achar. One may order curry dishes to their own taste.

Sundri trains chefs how to prepare food. She oversees the chefs teaching two new dishes each month. The staff is very friendly, experienced and knowledgeable about the menu. They might suggest guests finish their meal with Malaysian tea or coffee made of condensed milk or regular coffee and tea.

According to Rama, this is the only Malaysian restaurant in the East Bay. He invites all to experience the unique menu and tasty dishes.

The restaurant is decorated in a seaside tropical theme. On the walls are Batik print cloths complemented by fishing nets carefully placed. Restaurant hours are 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., Tuesday through Thursday and 5:30 to 9:30 p.m. weekdays. Friday and Saturday hours are

See CHAMBER, page 7

Newsline

REPUBLICAN WOMEN MEET

The Kensington Area Republican Women's Club will have their monthly meeting and luncheon at noon on Wednesday, April 30, at the Mira Vista Country Club (end of Cutting Boulevard) El Cerrito. The social hours is at noon and luncheon at 12:30 p.m.

The deadline for receipt of reservations is April 26.

The tickets are \$10 per person and reservations may be made with Dorothy Champion, 2687 Tamalpais Ave., El Cerrito, phone 237-4152. Your reservation will be confirmed on receipt of your check (made out to KARW).

The guest speaker will be Ann Jordan. Jordan is District Director for Assemblywoman Lynne Leach (15th District). She will speak on the Assembly legislative actions during this year.

STATUS OF MEDICARE

"Reality Check: What is the Status of Medicare" is the theme of a talk by Dennis Lyon, Program Manager for the Contra Costa County Health Insurance Care and Advocacy Program at the April 22 meeting of the El Cerrito Democratic Club at the Northminster Presbyterian Church, 545 Ashbury Ave. in El Cerrito, across from El Cerrito High.

The meeting starts at 7:30 p.m. with the program at 8 p.m. The public is invited. For more information or comments please contact Rolf M. Weber at 524-8142 or fax 527-6212 or e-mail RWeber1016@aol.com.

CONGRESS OF REPUBLICANS DINNER

The Kensington — El Cerrito Congress of Republicans is sponsoring a dinner on Friday, April 18.

It will be held at Springer, 1919 4th St., Berkeley. The speaker is Robert Nicholas who most recently served as President of Citizens for Order. He is also a former political action committee dedicated to the struggle for civil rights. Citizens for Order is a statewide volunteer organization since 1970 to fight for the rights of crime.

The public is cordially invited to attend the event. Directions are available by phone (940). The cost is \$16 per person. Social hour begins at 6 p.m. and dinner will be served at 7 p.m.

WORKSHOP IN GOSPEL SINGING, PERFORMANCE

Contra Costa College short-term gospel workshop allows singers of all ages to come together and perform a music concert. The class meets on Friday, April 17.

The four-day workshop, MUSIC 853-70, is for Older Adults, in which participants will study, rehearse and perform gospel music.

The class is open to singers of all ages, professionals. It meets at St. John Missionary Church, 662 South Street, El Cerrito. Class meeting times are 9:30 p.m. April 17 and 18, 5:30 p.m. Saturday, April 19. The concert is a live performance at the church on Sunday, April 20. The concert is open to the public.

There is no enrollment fee for the class, although there is a small charge for music. Call the Contra Costa Community Education Office, extension 434.



Sundri, left, and Rama Krishnasamy, husband and wife owners of Restoran Rasa Sayang Restaurant. Natives of Malaysia, the couple share the workload, she during the day and Rama in the evening. Serving Malaysian, Singaporean and Chinese cuisine, there are more than 70 menu items to choose from including appetizers, soups, salads and desserts.

Letters

Continued from page 4

hearing on the Del Norte EIR. This record should be made available to the public. We will need to refer to it should we feel it necessary to mount a legal challenge in this issue. We would, of course, prefer to have the meeting videotaped, in which case the court reporter could be dispensed with.

3. The time set for this meeting, 7-11 p.m. is not appropriate for the many elderly and working citizens

of El Cerrito. The council has in the past complained when sessions ran past 10 p.m.

We feel the meeting should be recessed at 10 p.m., and if there are remaining speakers that have not been heard, the meeting be reconvened at a later date. We would prefer Saturday, starting at, say, 11 a.m. This would provide an opportunity to participate, for residents that have problems with evening meetings.

Peter Loubal, El Cerrito

Folk

Continued from page 4

keley/Richmond Jewish Community Center senior activity, which went to visit the windmills at Altamont Pass. The things I didn't know about the windmill farms, what they accomplish, who owns them, how they take part in the economy of energy; all interesting and important facts I didn't even know I didn't know.

Thank you for letting me wander through my mind this week. I don't often do it, but it is kind of fun. But this is an off week. Usually I am responding to your suggestions of interesting people to write about, and that is the most fun of all. Please keep it coming. Your suggestions and remarks are so welcome. Please write to me at 555 Pierce St., #443, Albany, 94706, or call 525-4585. My e-mail is crgens@aol.com.

Heritage Quilters host renowned fiber artist at April 28 meeting

East Bay Heritage Quilters present their April Speaker — Katie Pasquini — on Monday, April 28, 7:30 p.m., at the First Unitarian Church, 1 Lawson Rd., Kensington.

A renowned fiber artist and teacher, Pasquini will be showing a combination of slides from her quilting trips and the unusual things she found in the course of her travels,

including beautiful works from quilters all over the world.

It promises to be a humorous look at the world from a quilter's point of view.

Admission is free to members, \$3 for non-members.

For questions or further information, please call Ulli Hanley, 524-3760.

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Chamber

continued from page 6

ended until 10 p.m., Sunday, 9 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Phone 525-

Williams will soon be celebrating her first anniversary after opening her hair salon, Sculpting Friendships in Hair, located at 918 San Pablo Ave.

Wilson and John Ortiz, both associates of Giovanni's Cutting Salon, do their best to make clients feel as comfortable as possible, giving quality professional service in a friendly atmosphere.

Want people to come in and feel the warmth and love of the salon, Wilson said. "Some clients are feeling low, however, leaving their appointment, they have been elevated to a more positive level. Other clients become acquainted with each other and each other, sharing good experiences."

After opening her salon, Wilson

son rented salon stations in this area and now has the opportunity to rent stations to others to make them grow strong within themselves in a feel-good environment.

Salon specialties are hair cuts, permanents and colors.

Wilson and her husband, David, renovated and decorated the inviting salon. One feels welcome in the well-lighted and attractive salon decorated with potted plants and soft colors. Wilson has 17 years as a cosmetologist; Ortiz has 20 years experience.

Always wanting to "do" hair, Wilson started beauty college at 16 years of age. As an 8-year-old, she would style her mother's hair for functions.

The salon is open Wednesday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Appointments may be made however, they are not always necessary.

Phone 524-9292.



New chamber members Cindy Williams and John Ortiz provide quality service in a comfortable atmosphere at Sculpting Friendships in Hair located at 918 San Pablo Avenue. Call 524-9292 for appointments.

Ensemble Sans Souci presents 'Four Seasons for Three'

Ensemble Sans Souci presents "4 Seasons for 3 — Vivaldi's Masterpiece in Miniature," featuring Bob Andrews, baroque flute and recorder; Julie Jeffrey, viola da gamba; and Joseph Kimbel, harpsichord, Sunday, May 4, at St. Alban's Episcopal Church, 1501 Washington, at 3 p.m. \$10 donation suggested (\$7 for St. Alban's parishioners).

The Four Seasons of Antonio Vivaldi (1725) are perhaps the best-known concertos that come down to us from the Baroque (apart from that other serious contender, J.S. Bach's "Brandenburg Concertos").

These musical portraits of nature have been newly framed by Bay Area harpsichordist Joseph Kimbel, in his arrangement of this work for concertato (solo) harpsichord with baroque flute and viola da gamba, after the manner of Jean-Philippe Rameau's "Pieces de

Clavecin en Concerts" (Concerted Harpsichord Pieces) of 1741. The concert is, as it were, Vivaldi with a French accent.

The transfer of these string concertos to an even more intimate trio medium is, surprisingly, quite successful. (Numerous solo keyboard transcriptions of Italian concertos survive from the 18th century; J.S. Bach and J.G. Walther are the most noted arrangers.)

This program is complemented by sonata movements from the "Opus 13" Il Pastor Fido (The Faithful Shepherd), published in France in 1737, attributed to Vivaldi, but now known to be a clever imitation.

Nonetheless, recognizing the wide popularity of his works in France and their influence throughout Europe as a whole, some of these mock-Vivaldi movements will be included. Call 621-3085, e-mail boba@grin.net.

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East Bay Events



Tee Fee Swamp Boogie Band is one of the performers at this year's Earth Day Celebration, April 19 at Martin Luther King Park.

Earth Day activities in Berkeley

Berkeley Earth Day will be celebrated on Saturday, April 19, with a free event from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Martin Luther King Park at Allsont and MLK Jr. Way in downtown Berkeley. The eco-motion parade starts at 11 a.m. with kids and adults walking, biking, stiltwalking, driving electric cars and using other forms of non-polluting transportation.

The day's festivities will include:

Speakers: Judy Brady, Toxic Links Coalition, Women's Cancer Resource Center
Deborah Berman Santana, Urban Ecology

A tribute to the live of Earth First!er Judi Bari who recently died of cancer.

Performers: Tee Fee (Canjun dance)
Jackeline Rago & Grupo Campana (Afro-Venezuelan)
Teokalli (Aztec dance)
Jennifer Berezan (folk)
La Peña Community Chorus
Olivia Corson (performance art)
Jessie Wakoda (performance art)
Singing Rainbow Youth Ensemble

Activities: Tree free Pavillion with hemp, tree free paper, plastic wood, etc.
Kid's Eco-art making area with East Bay Depot for Creative Reuse
StarLab (portable planetarium)
Berkeley Farmer's Market
Vegetarian food, craft and community booths.

The event is sponsored by the city of Berkeley and co-sponsored by Missing Link Bike Shop, Progressive Asset Management, Inkworks, Birkenstock, Voila Juices and the Department of Conservation.

California Native Plant Sale

The Regional Parks Botanic Garden at Tilden Regional Park will hold its annual plant sale Saturday, April 19 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. featuring Manzanita, Ceanothus, Iris, and bulbs, as well as plants that attract birds and butterflies. Homemade cookies and cold drinks will be for sale. All proceeds benefit the Botanic Garden.

Pacific Coast Collegiate Jazz Festival

The 23rd Annual Pacific Coast collegiate Jazz Festival will be held Friday and Saturday, April 18 and 19 and will feature 60 jazz groups from colleges and universities, including performances by several of the UC Jazz Ensembles. The UCJE Big Band will perform Saturday at 7 p.m., followed by the Joe Lovano Quartet/Christian McBride Quintet at 8 p.m. both in Zellerbach Hall. Day passes for the festival are \$7 per day and \$10 for both days. For complete event listing or further information call 642-5062.

'Knight's Tale' comes to Speakeasy Theatre

Knight's Tale, a story of two young knights who battle for the woman they both love, will open at the Speakeasy Theatre April 25, starring Terry Lamb as the *Canterbury Tales* Pilgrim Sir Knight. Lamb is an Albany resident.

The play is enhanced by an original musical score by award-winning Berkeley composer John Geist, whose theatrical scores include music at the California Shakespeare Festival, Berkeley Repertory Theatre and with Magdalena Group. Geist is currently nominated for a 1996 Bay Area Critics Circle Award for original music for the *Knight's Tale*.

Tickets are \$10 general with special rates. Call 845-4100 for reservations.



Terry Lamb as Pilgrim Sir Knight

Local journalist speaks at Easy Going

Bay Area journalist Roxane Farmanfarman, a west coast correspondent for Publishers Weekly, reads from and discusses her new book, *Blood & Oil: Memoirs of a Persian Prince* on Thursday, April 24 at 7:30 p.m. at Easy Going Travel Shop and Bookstore, 1385 Shattuck Ave.

Farmanfarman and her father Prince Manucher Farmanfarman tell a true story of their families' involvement in Persia's opulent high life during the of the Shah. Born into Iran's most aristocratic family, director of national Iranian Oil and advisor to the Shah, the now exiled Manucher provides a candid view of the world's petroleum politics. For information call 843-3533.

It's Springfest '97 at International House

The International House's major event of the year, Springfest, is Saturday, April 19 from 1 to 7 p.m. at 2299 Piedmont Ave. The festival

More East Bay events next page

Perla's new piece nods to Coltrane

By Carol Egan

On Friday the Oakland East Bay Symphony will premiere a work by Oakland resident Jack Perla. 'Trane of Thought' was commissioned by the symphony to feature the Oaktown Jazz Ensemble, young jazz musicians on brass and reed instruments supported by a professional adult rhythm section. The group is led by Khalil Shaheed, who joins in on trumpet.

Originally from New York State, Perla holds degrees from New York University, the Manhattan School of Music, and Yale.

"As a performer I'm a jazz musician," says Perla. "But I've always run on parallel tracks, devoting equal time to composition. At the same time, the music I compose has never looked away from jazz and other American music—quite the opposite. Since the challenge of this commission was to feature the jazz combo in 'opposition' to the orchestra, it has been an ideal project

for me."

OEBs music director Michael Morgan shares with Perla a keen interest in synthesizing the old with the new. Perla is no stranger to the OEBs, having already had two works performed here. In 1991 the orchestra played his Dance Sinfonietta, originally composed for a choreography workshop at Dance Theatre of Harlem. Last year Perla's Luminarium, originally commissioned by the OEBs in 1994, was given its Bay Area premiere by the orchestra.

Interviewed three weeks ago in his Oakland apartment, the 38-year-old composer appeared relaxed and optimistic. Discussing his background, Perla stated that his real interest in music developed when he began studying the piano at age 9, after what he terms a "false start" with a less-than-satisfactory guitar teacher.

"I really took to it at that point. I went through a succession of teachers and kept trying to climb the musical ladder."

By the time he was mid-way through high school, Perla knew he wanted to pursue a career in music.



He claims he was able to find good teachers only after moving from the suburbs to New York City to attend college.

Until that time, he says, "I was mostly self-taught."

Because of having to find his own way in those formative years,

he especially appreciated values programs such as jazz music programs at Berkeley's Young Men's Program.

See PERLA

Young jazz musicians join OEB Symphony

By Carol Egan

Young local musical talent will once again be presented by the Oakland East Bay Symphony in its concert on Friday. Jack Perla's 'Trane of

Thought, commissioned by the symphony, features the Oaktown Jazz Ensemble. Under the direction of Khalil Shaheed, the ensemble consists of youth from 13 to 18 playing brass and reed instruments. They are supported by

a rhythm section made up of professional musicians, including Ed Williams on bass, Achyutan on percussion, and Shaheed on trumpet. For this occasion the ensemble will be joined by composer Perla on piano.

The idea for the piece arose after OEBs music director Michael Morgan, hearing the ensemble play at the opening of the Jack London Cinema, invited them to guest with the symphony. Although Morgan didn't yet have a work in mind, he turned to Perla, whose music he knows well, and commissioned him to compose something for jazz ensemble and orchestra.

Catching up with Shaheed before a recent rehearsal at the Dimond Recreation Center, I was able to learn about the ensemble and its formation.

"We actually started in September of 1995," said Shaheed. "It was basically my idea, but the city [of Oakland] helped a lot in organization, and they gave me my original funding. They had

some NEA money, and people at Cultural Affairs asked if I could organize a sort of after-school program."

That gave rise to the Oaktown Jazz Workshop, which began in 1996. Shaheed was a young man when he began playing in a professional ensemble. "It's not done often—jazz band and symphony orchestra. What I really appreciated about the way he did this music is that he didn't water it down"

—KHALIL SHAHEED



Khalil Shaheed, director of the Oaktown Jazz Ensemble with some of his young musicians.

'It's not done often—jazz band and symphony orchestra. What I really appreciated about the way he did this music is that he didn't water it down'

—KHALIL SHAHEED

Not only do they get instruction, but we're family and they get to see how we live.

"We all play music living, and that's basic we do. So it's like mentorship. I think that a lot, aside from the instruction."

The original NEA grant included fees for the program.

See OAKTOWN

New version of 'Anna Karenina' is stunning

By Renata Polt

As a person who sees an average of three movies a week, I rarely wish that a movie were longer than it is. But I did with *Anna Karenina*, a stunning new version of Leo Tolstoy's classic written and directed by Bernard Rose, a Britisher whose main previous credit is *Immortal Beloved*, a biographical film on Beethoven.

Although this *Anna* still leaves a lot tentative, such as the relationship between the novel's two main couples (Anna/Vronsky and Levin/Kitty), it includes far more than earlier film incarnations, such as the famous Greta Garbo one of 1935 or the Vivian Leigh/Ralph Richardson 1948 version. On top of that, the characters' emotions are so overwhelming and the visuals so glorious that I simply didn't want it to end.

In brief, for those unfamiliar with the story: Young, beautiful Anna (Sophie Marceau), married to the much older Alexi Karenin (James Fox), falls in love with the dashing young officer, Count Vronsky (Sean Bean), and leaves husband and child to be with him. In contrast to the emotional devastation caused by this affair is the pure and selfless love of Constantin Levin (Alfred Molina), a wealthy but morally scrupulous landowner, and Kitty (Mia Kirshner), a distant relation of Anna's. (Their love story has been omitted from most previous film ver-

sions.)

As young graduate students, my girlfriends and I used to play the game: What literary character would you like to marry? Levin's name came up more frequently than any other. My heart no longer throbs quite that way about Levin, but it's easy to understand why previous director have chosen to omit him. As an embodiment of Tolstoy's beliefs (Christian spirituality — no, Levin is not Jewish — and solidarity with the peasantry), he's difficult to portray. Anyway, virtue always plays less interestingly than vice. Molina, an experienced character actor (*Dead Man, Before and After*), does Levin justice if anyone can.

Sophie Marceau (*Braveheart*) is an exotically beautiful Anna, torn between her passion for Vronsky and her love of her child, whom her husband takes away. The scene in which Anna steals back to the house to see the little boy is as wrenching in the movie as I remember it from the novel. As in most 19th century stories of adultery, it's the woman on whom society's outrage rests. Anna's frustration at the role she's forced to play — she has to stay home while Vronsky enjoys himself at the opera and at dinner parties — is as shown to be as responsible as anything else for her tragedy.

Filed in Moscow and St. Petersburg, in

See ANNA, page 9



Anna (Sophie Marceau) comforts her son, Seriozha (Hamish Falconer) in 'Anna Karenina'

East Bay Events

celebration of the world's peoples, cultures and creativity and continuous performance, food from around the world, arts and international consulates, children's games and activities and a fashion show. Spring fest will also feature over 60 vendors offering art, handicrafts, displays and food. There will be traditional ceremonies and multicultural, guided, hands-on activities for children. For more information call 642-9460.

Russian Village Festival at Zellerbach

Performances and UC Berkeley's Center for Slavic and East European Studies welcome the Russian Village Festival at 8 p.m., Friday, April 17 at Zellerbach Hall. Seven regional folk groups representing different areas of the country will perform in the Village Fair to the Stage: *Rituals and Celebrations of the People*. This 65-member assemblage will bring a collection of dances and festival customs.

Tickets are priced at \$14, \$20 and \$26 and are available through the Performances Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall. Call 642-9988 for further information.

Basie' at Berkeley Library

Basie celebrates the music of Count Basie with three free events to be held at the Berkeley Public Library. The library's ninth annual event features rare film footage, a Kansas City combo and an 18-piece band. Free copies of Basie's autobiography, *Good Morning*, will be given away as door prizes each night.

The events will run Friday, April 25, though Sunday, April 27 in the Library Reading Room at 2090 Kittredge St. On Friday at 7:30 p.m., *Basie and Friends*, two hours of rare film footage, curated by musicologist and historian Mark Cantor. Saturday features pianist, arranger and arranger Ellen Hoffman brings a combo together with Brenda Boykin, Melecia Magdaluyo, Eddie Pasternak, Ruth Kent Bryson. The event closes with the Ernie Small Big Band on Sunday night.

For more information call the library at 644-6100.

'Wings in color' at Madame Mustards

Wings in Color, a collection of colored pencil portraits and studies by Berkeley artist Pamela Markmann are currently on display at Madame Mustards, 2748 Adeline St., through May. The new show runs from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Black Repertory Group auditions
summer production upcoming

Auditions for the Black Repertory Group's summer production of *Beauty, a tale told slightly off the wall* will be held Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, April 28, 29 and 30, at 7 p.m. at the Black Repertory Group Theater, 3201 Adeline St.

Children age 8 to 18 are encouraged to try out. Call 652-2120 or 652-2122 for further details.

Beauty, a tale told slightly off the wall is a comedy partly about a fractured fairy tale and partly on a parody of children's books in general. Many of the 14 young actors chosen will play more than one role and the entire cast will also be the backstage crew. Auditions will be in the evenings from 7 to 9 p.m., starting Monday, April 28. The show will run Thursday, Friday and Saturday from July 18 through August 16, with an afternoon and an evening performance each night.

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Perla

Continued from page 8

Perla's interest in jazz developed somewhat late.

"I wasn't really hearing jazz until the end of high school. I didn't have those sorts of teachers. So it was more in the nature of playing rhythm and blues or rock and roll. I first got serious about it in college."

In high school Perla, like many youngsters of that age, participated in rock bands. Later, during his college years, he played in jazz groups.

In 1994 Perla's wife, a scientist, was offered a research position at Stanford. Deciding to come to the West Coast, at least for the summer, Perla called his friend Michael Morgan, who suggested that he contact the Young Musicians Program. The program, now about 30 years old, provides private lessons and an intense comprehensive summer program for musically gifted youth who cannot afford to study privately.

Perla's timing was right; the

program was just then looking for teachers. Perla was hired and has been on the faculty ever since. During the school year he directs the YMP Jazz Combo and gives private lessons. In the summer he is involved in multiple ways with the comprehensive program. His own background gives him an appreciation for the program and his involvement in it.

In addition to teaching, Perla also performs and composes commercial music; he is currently preparing a jazz CD for release in May.

Congratulations for being able to make a living in his chosen field,

'Since the beginning of March I've been going to rehearsals and working intensively with Khalil and the kids.'

—JACK PERLA

sively with Khalil and the kids.

"I didn't undercut the music on account of it being young people. I didn't want to do that, so I'm asking them to rise to the occasion, which they're doing."

Choosing a signature John Coltrane composition, "Impressions," was no accident. Coltrane is often the object of hero worship

Perla laughs and retorts, "I'm certainly not able to buy East Bay real estate yet."

Asked about his collaboration with the Oakland Jazz Ensemble, Perla says, "Since the beginning of March I've been going to rehearsals and working intensively with Khalil and the kids."

by much younger musicians. The melodies Perla chose to work with are open-ended and present rich possibilities for development and variation. The work brings the energy and rhythm of jazz together with the narrative scope of classical music while still leaving room for improvisation.

Mozart, Beethoven and Stravinsky

In addition to Perla's work, Friday's program includes Mozart's Piano Concerto No. 23 with pianist Christopher Taylor, Beethoven's Symphony No. 4, and Stravinsky's Concerto in D for Strings. All works will be conducted by Michael Morgan.

Pianist Christopher Taylor was bronze medal winner in the 1994 Van Cliburn International Piano Competition.

The concert is at 8 p.m. Friday at the Paramount Theatre, 2025 Broadway. Tickets are \$11 to \$33, available through the Paramount box office, 465-6400.

Oaktown

Continued from page 8

musicians. After the grant ended, the ensemble received further funding from an Oakland-based organization called Philanthropic Ventures Corporation. With the recent expiration of that grant, Shaheed hopes to find another foundation or individual donor.

While the group slowly gathers, Shaheed speaks about Perla's piece stating, "It's not done often—jazz band and symphony orchestra. What I really appreciated about the way he did this music is that he didn't water it down and say, 'Well, I'm writing something that kids are playing.' This piece of music would stand up with grown-ups, professional musicians for 40 years."

At this point, hearing Shaheed emphasize the difficulty of the piece, Ed Williams adds, "The kids

don't know it, though."

The first of the youngsters to arrive is 13-year old alto saxophone player Marcelo Vaz, a student at Monta Vista Junior High School in Montclair.

Shaheed explains, "He's one of the guys who's been with me the longest. He's been here from day one."

Asked if he chose the students by audition, Shaheed responds, "Actually, it was kind of like water seeking its own level. A bunch of kids came around, but the ones that were serious and liked me just gravitated and stuck. The core group comes to both workshops. We work both here [the Dimond Recreation Center] and the Alice Arts Center."

"Other people leave and come back again, which is cool. But there's always a core group that

really wants to learn."

Although the general ambience in the workshop is casual, Shaheed had to lay down some rules for those kids involved in this project.

"When I found out that we were doing this, and really when we had the music in hand, I had to say, 'You have to be here. If you're going to do this concert, you have to be at all the rehearsals.'"

"The guys that are playing with the symphony are the ones that have shown me the best work ethic, are the most serious about their music, and have progressed the most in the time that I've known them."

By now the group has assembled and a warm-up session begins with "Simply Brian," a tune composed by 16-year-old El Cerrito High student Josiah Woodson for his new baby brother.

Asked when he wrote it, he turns to his 17-year-old brother, Josh, and asks, "How many Tuesdays ago did I write that song?" The Woodson brothers have already been asked to record some of their music.

Next comes a first-time reading of Ed Williams' "Passacaglia," after J.S. Bach. Then they turn to John Coltrane's "Impressions" (the piece that forms the basis of Perla's work), with each musician taking a solo riff.

A discussion of chords and harmonies, led by the professionals, helps the youngsters better understand modulations and key signatures.

Seeing traditions being handed down from one generation to another is always moving. Khalil Shaheed and his colleagues, Ed Williams and Achyutan, are keeping the traditions of jazz alive.

Karenina

Continued from page 8

such magnificently reconstructed sites as the Winter Palace and the Hermitage, *Anna Karenina* is almost overpoweringly opulent. In a scene in which Kitty runs down a gallery of one gilded, curlicued room to another (echoed shortly after by Anna running along the same gallery in the opposite direction), you feel the characters almost dwarfed by their settings.

The film is very Russian: There's some Russian dialogue (when the aristocrats speak to the peasants), and all the music, di-

rected by Sir Georg Solti, is by Tchaikovsky, Rachmaninoff and Prokofiev.

One tiny quibble: The actual title of the film is *Leo Tolstoy's Anna Karenina*—to distinguish it from *Danielle Steel's Anna Karenina*. Stephen King's *Anna Karenina*, perhaps? Hey, I have news for you movie moguls: Anyone who doesn't recognize the title *Anna Karenina* won't recognize the name Leo Tolstoy, either.

Anna Karenina opens in San Francisco on April 18 and elsewhere on May 2nd.

Want to list an event? suggest a story? Email The Voice at bkyvoice@idiom.com

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The Casebolt House, 1912

Architectural tour is Sunday

The Berkeley Architectural Heritage Association will hold its 22nd annual House Tour and Reception on Sunday, April 21, from noon to 5 p.m. This year's tour is Thousand Oaks, The Legacy of the Arts and Crafts Movement in

North Berkeley.

The tour includes the interiors and gardens of eight houses from the first years of the century, featuring the work of architects John Hudson Thomas, Bernard Maybeck, Walter Steilberg, William Knowles and Noble Newsom. Thousand Oaks, subdivided in 1909, has great natural beauty and a rich architectural legacy, with houses hugging the knoll, looking out over the Bay, set in gardens with giant boulders and oak trees. There will be a reception at one of the houses. Tickets are \$21 for members of BAHA and \$26 for the general public.

Houses on the tour include craftsman bungalows and chalets, a honeymoon cottage, a stockbroker Tudor and English country houses, all built when living in Thousand Oaks was like living in the country.

For further information or reservations, please call the Berkeley Architectural Heritage office at 841-7421 or 841-2242. Reservations may also be made by writing to BAHA, P.O. Box 1137, Berkeley, Ca 94701.

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■ Goings On About Town

Classes

Apr. 17
Ballroom Dance: 1 pm; Roman Otowski; North Berkeley Senior Center, 1901 Hears/MLK Jr. Way; 644-6107
Safety: 11 am; disaster info for seniors; Kensington 55+ Activity Center, Arlington Community Church, 52 Arlington Ave., Kensington; 526-9146
Apr. 18
Enhance Image Editing Skills with an Introduction to Adobe Photoshop: 5-9 pm; Vista Community College, 2020 Milvia St., Berkeley; \$96; Apr. 18; Mildred Stewart; 841-8860
Apr. 19
Designing for the World Wide Web: 1-5 pm; Vista Community College, 2020 Milvia St., Berkeley; \$96; Apr. 19; Mildred Stewart; 841-8860
Apr. 22
Berkeley Gray Panthers: 2 pm; environment committee; 1325 Grant St., Berkeley; 527-3790
Apr. 23
Berkeley Gray Panthers: 10:30 am; newsletter assembly committee; 1325 Grant St., Berkeley; 527-3790
Ongoing
I Can Cope: every Mon., noon-2 pm through May 19; for persons living with cancer, their families and friends; Regional Cancer Center at Brookside Hospital, 2000 Vale Rd., San Pablo; free; 235-7006 ext.

Community Events

Apr. 19
Cal Day: 1:30 pm; free concerts exhibits, talks and tours as part of the university's open house; UC Berkeley campus; 642-6000 for general info
Multicultural Festival-Springfest '97: 1-7 pm; performances, food, arts & crafts, international consulates, children's games and fashion show; International House, 2299 Piedmont Ave. (intersection of Piedmont and east end of Bancroft Way), Berkeley; \$3/\$1; 642-9460
Nomura School Spring Carnival: 11 am-4 pm; food and games; The Pacific Academy of Nomura School, 1615 Carlson Blvd., Richmond; 528-1727
Ongoing
Noon Meals: on every Thurs., lunch is available for \$1.50; 526-9146

Exhibits

Apr. 20
Les Fleurs Intimes: 2-5 pm, opening reception; photographer, Gail Skoff; Cecile Mouchek Gallery, 1809D Fourth St. (upstairs), Berkeley; through June 8; 549-1018
Apr. 21
Thousand Oaks-The Legacy of the Arts & Crafts Movement in North Berkeley: noon-5 pm; Berkeley Architectural Heritage Association Tour; purchase tickets at Stoneface Park, 1001 Oaks Blvd. and San Fernando Rd.; 221/

\$26; 841-2242
Ongoing
Intuitive Images-A World View From the Inside Out: 6-8 pm opening reception; Nina Benedetto; Gallery of the Center for Psychological Studies, 1398 Solano Ave., Albany; 524-0291
Celebration of Youth Arts Festival '97-A Palette of Cultures: works by Berkeley public school students ages 14-18; Judah L. Magnes Museum, 2911 Russell St., Berkeley; 549-6950
Raining Frogs and Other Natural Wonders: drawings and paintings by Barbara Hazard; Berkeley Store Gallery, 2226 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley; through May 4; 649-0272
Drawings and Watercolors from the British Council Collection: Vorticism, Constructivism, Abstraction, Neo-Romanticism, and Pop Art; Berkeley Art Museum/Pacific Film Archive, 2635 Durant Ave., Berkeley; through June 22; 642-0808
Berkeley Leads- Thirty-Five Years of Disability Rights: 3-5 pm reception; Veterans Memorial Bldg., 1931 Center St. (2 blks. from BART), Berkeley; through Oct. 11; 848-0181

Lectures and Workshops

Apr. 17
Capitals of Culture Lecture Series: 7:30 pm; *Stanza Della Segnatura-Raphael*; UC Art History and Italian Studies Prof. Loren Partridge, University YWCA, 2600 Bancroft Way, Berkeley; \$15; 848-6370
Local Self-Reliance Network Night: 7 pm; Helena Norberg-Hodge; discussion on sustainable living and self-reliance; Little Planet Cafe Collective, 3220 Adeline Ave., Berkeley; buffet dinner; sliding scale \$5-10 fro kick-off event; 547-4840
Resume Styles-Tips and Feedback: 1:30 pm; Turning Point Career Center, University YWCA, 2600 Bancroft Way, Berkeley; \$3, non-members; 848-6370
Career Center Support Group: afternoon drop-in; University YWCA, 2600 Bancroft Way, Berkeley; \$5/\$10; 848-6370
Solo By Bicycle-Montana to Alaska: 7 pm; Marilyn Hope Smulyan, cycled 2,770 miles solo through the Canadian Rockies; REI, 1338 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley; 527-4140
Apr. 18
Vincent Resh, Ph.D.: 12:30 pm; "Scientific Communication Technology in Layman's Terms"; City Commons Club, 2315 Durant Ave., Berkeley; \$1; 848-3533 or 845-4725
Apr. 21
Disaster Preparedness- Are You Ready?: 1:15 pm; Carleen Acezebo; North Berkeley Senior Center, 1901 Hears/MLK Jr. Way; 644-6107
Apr. 22
Americans with Disabilities Act-discussion: 1:15 pm; Eric Dibner, City

of Berkeley Disability Compliance Coordinator; North Berkeley Senior Center, 1901 Hears/MLK Jr. Way; 644-6107
Apr. 23
Regents' Lecture: 8 pm; Akira Matsui; Hertz Hall, Bancroft Way at College Ave., UC Berkeley campus, Berkeley; free; 642-9988
Ongoing
Career Counseling: for job seekers and career changers; Turning Point Career Center, University YWCA, 2600 Bancroft Way, Berkeley; \$40/\$50 per one-hour session; 848-6370 for an appointment

Literary Events

Apr. 17



Classical pianist at Maybeck

Antonio Iturroz will play at the Maybeck Studio for Performing Arts at 1537 Euclid Ave. on Sunday, April 27. He will play works by Schumann, Liszt and Scriabin.

Judith Gilford: 7:30 pm; *The Packing Book: Secrets of the Carry-On Traveler*; a resource for travelers; Easy Going Travel and Bookstore, 1385 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley; 843-6725

Russian Village Culture Symposium: 2 pm; dance, music, costume, and folk rituals by the *Russian Village Festival*; Zellerbach Auditorium, Bancroft Way, UC Berkeley campus; \$14-\$26;

642-9988
Sonia Choquette: 7:30 pm; *Your Heart's Desires*; Gaia Bookstore and Community Center, 1400 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley; 548-4172
Apr. 18
Melody Ermachild Chavis: 7:30 pm; *Altars in the Streets- Neighborhood Fights for its Survival*; Gaia Bookstore and Community Center, 1400 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley; 548-4172
Apr. 19
California Writers' Club: noon; Ed Perkins, editor of *Consumer Reports Travel Letter on Travel Writing*; Berkeley City Club, 2315 Durant Ave., Berkeley; \$12.50/\$14.50; 237-8497
Cal Day: 1:30 pm; Prof. Mary Ann

ish Community Center, 1414 Walnut St., Berkeley; 704-7475

Music

Apr. 17
That One Guy: 8 pm; Jupiter; 2181 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley; no cover; 510/THE-TAPS
Bill Morrissey: 8 pm; singer-songwriter; Freight & Salvage Coffeehouse, 1111 Addison St., Berkeley; 548-1761
Apr. 18
Dogslyde: 8:30 pm; Jupiter; 2181 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley; no cover; 510/THE-TAPS
Berkeley High School Orchestra: 7:30 pm; Florence Schwimley Little Theater, Berkeley H.S. campus, Allston Way between Milvia and Martin Luther King Jr. Way, donation at door
Katy Moffat: 8:30 pm; roots country; Freight & Salvage Coffeehouse, 1111 Addison St., Berkeley; 548-1761
Apr. 19
Rhythm & Steele: 8:30 pm; Jupiter; 2181 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley; no cover; 510/THE-TAPS
University Chorus: 1:30 pm; Cal Day; songs of love and springtime; Hertz Hall, Bancroft Way at College Ave., UC Berkeley campus, Berkeley; free; 642-9988
David Kalins: 2:30 pm; Cal Day; traditional Irish tunes on hammered dulcimer; Hertz Hall, Bancroft Way at College Ave., UC Berkeley campus, Berkeley; free; 642-9988
University Symphony Orchestra: 3 pm; Cal Day; Mozart's *Jupiter* Symphony; Hertz Hall, Bancroft Way at College Ave., UC Berkeley campus, Berkeley; free; 642-9988
African Music and Dance Ensemble: 8 pm; traditional music and dance of West Africa; Hertz Hall, Bancroft Way at College Ave., UC Berkeley campus, Berkeley; 642-9988
Jim Nunally & Dix Bruce, del Rey: 8:30 pm; bluegrass & blues guitar; Freight & Salvage Coffeehouse, 1111 Addison St., Berkeley; 548-1761
Apr. 20
Tom Rush: 8 pm; classic folk; Freight & Salvage Coffeehouse, 1111 Addison St., Berkeley; 548-1761
Berkeley Unified School District Musicians: 7:30 pm; Annual Youth Arts Festival/celebration of the arts; Berkeley Art Center Association, 1275 Walnut St., Berkeley; 642-6893
Apr. 23
Gamelan Sekar Jaya: 12:15 pm; Balinese gamelan w/ 30 musicians and

dancers; Hertz Hall, Bancroft Way at College Ave., UC Berkeley campus, Berkeley; 642-9988
Freight & Salvage Coffeehouse: 1111 Addison St., Berkeley; 548-1761

Ongoing Meetings

Apr. 22
Toastmasters: on campus; public speaking in a supportive environment; 2515 Hillside Ave., Berkeley; 548-1761
Odette Lard: 642-9988
Apr. 23
American Scholastic Alliance: for the 8:45 pm; family support room, at the corner of Benvenue in Berkeley
Ongoing
Little Planet Cafe: runs by volunteers; proceeds to progressive causes and receive food while in action; 547-4840 for more info
Easy Does It: minor wheelchair repair; accessible transportation; City Limits, 24 1/2 (voice), 464-8583 (TDD)

Religion

Apr. 19
Diocesan Leadership: 9 am-4 pm; St. Alban's, 1501 Washington Ave., 1716
Apr. 20
An Interfaith Service: Unity/Diversity; 3 pm; Center, 1931 Russell St., Berkeley; 524-2468
First Unitarian Church: 10:45 am; Barbours Holway; "When Will We Practicing Non-Violence?" Kensington; 525-0302

Film/Dance/Theater

Apr. 17
Moments of Truth: Francesco Rosi: 7 & 10 Brothers and Just Another Film Archive, University of Berkeley Art Museum, Berkeley; 642-1412
Apr. 18
Video Opera: 1 pm; Gold" pt. II; North Berkeley, 1901 Hears/MLK Jr.

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Poetry winners announced

For the second year in a row, Carolyn Cogan of Walnut Creek was declared winner of the grand prize at the Poets' Dinner held in Berkeley March 22. Her title was "The Cooks of Terazim," from the category Beginnings and Endings.

Maggie Morley of Kensington was three times a winner, receiving first prize for her Beginnings and Endings poem, "The Januaries," third prize for "The Marthe Mary," People, and third honorable mention for "The Sneezes," a Poet's Choice entry. 13 contestants became double winners.

From his wheelchair, paraplegic Lee Willimas spoke to Two-Way Streets, theme of the 71st consecutive Poets' Dinner, and urged adherence to a positive lifestyle.

Contest entries are submitted anonymously, winning poems read at the dinner. Hopefuls must

attend the awards program to claim their prizes. Twice called to the podium was Elizabeth Kelly from Kensington, to receive third prize for her Beginnings and Endings "Sunflowers," second prize for a Love poem, "Junior."

Double winners from Berkeley were Phyllis Smith carting off third prize in the Nature category for "Ceremony" and first honorable mention for "South on Highway 15," Spaces and Places; Mary McCarthy receiving first honorable mention for "The Sensitive Plant," Nature, and third honorable mention for "Half Dome," Spaces and Places. Phyllis Jordan took second prize in the last-named category for "The Church at Orcival."

The Poets' Dinner contest is a nonprofit enterprise launched annually to further the creation of poetry.

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Dishing the Dish
with The Maven

The Maven bumped into Maggie and Bob Klein, the lovely owners of Oliveto, and boy are they relieved that their several-month renovation is almost completed. Now you can sit downstairs, in what I think is the hippest boite in town, and have the same food that they're eating upstairs. An additional advantage of being downstairs is that you can also have pizza, and be closer to the espresso machine, in a more casual atmosphere. Bob, incidentally couldn't believe that the Wine Spectator chose Oliveto as one of the Top 10 Italian restaurants in the entire country. But, he'll take it anytime. We all know what a fab job Paul Bertolli has done with that cucina ...

Speaking of fab kitchens, did you see the lineup of chefs who'll be dishing it up at this year's Napa Valley Auction, which is always the wine and food event of the year. For openers Thursday night June 5, Douglas Rodriguez of Patria (NYC) will be cooking at Beringer Vineyards, also from NYC, the chefs at the famous steakhouse Smith & Wollensky will be bringing their aged prime to Charles Krug, and Sylvain Portay (Ritz-Carlton, S.F.) will be at Chateau Potelle ...

Also in Napa, Michael Chiarello (Tra Vigne) will cook for five wineries, Mark Militello (Mark's Place, Miami), will be at Grace Family Winery, Alain Rondelli of the same name S.F. restaurant will be at Joseph Phelps, Anne Rosenzweig (Arcadia, The Lobster Club, NYC) will cook at Spottswoode, and Thomas Keller (French Laundry will serve up lunch at Araujo the next day ...

And that's just for starters. For the two gala dinners for 2,000 Friday and Saturday nights, the roster includes David and Anne Gingrass (Hawthorne Lane), Piero Selvaggio (Valentino, L.A.), Gerald Hirigoyen (Fringale), Mark Miller (Coyote Cafe, Santa Fe), and Cindy Pawlcyn (Fog City, Mustards, et al), Nancy Oakes (Boulevard), and Nancy Silvertown (Campanile, L.A.). Wow! ...

Dates are June 4-8 at the Meadowood Country Club and environs. Call 707-942-9775 to see if any ducats remain. Hurry ...

Also up in Napa, what has happened to Jeremiah Tower's Star's in Oakville? Tower is supposed to be cooking at the Napa Auction, but the restaurant has been closed for awhile ... Also, look soon for Greenwich Village import Dean & DeLuca super upscale market to open soon at Highway 29 between Rutherford and St. Helena. D&D is lower Manhattan's Italian version of uptown's Jewish Zabar's. If you think the Oakville Grocery on Highway 29 has some gourmet items, watch out for D&D to give Oakville a good run for its money ...

Closer to home, the California Shakespeare Festival will be hosting a fund raising "Bard's Birthday Dinner" April 26 at the Sequoyah Country Club on Heafey Road. The night includes a silent auction, a three-course dinner with music, and actors from CSF. Tix are \$130. For more info, call 548-3422 ...

On May 20, the Bay Area will be celebrating the 10th "Taste of the Nation", which brings together the region's top restaurants, wineries, breweries, and bakeries. One hundred percent of the proceeds will go toward local food banks ...

A taste of the long list of participants include the East Bay's Citron, Lalime, and Rivoli. In fact, Rivoli's Wendy Brucker will be giving a cooking demo in The Cellar at Macy's S.F., May 17 at 11 a.m. The event itself three days later will be held aboard the Hornblower Dining Yacht, California Hornblower, on Pier 33. Tickets are \$85. Call 415-495-2331 for reservations.

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■ Martin Snapp

I Love A Gershwin Tune: It was a scene straight out of a '30s backstage musical: Three weeks before the "new" Gershwin musical, "Crazy For You," was scheduled to open at the El Cerrito Community Theater, the costume designer died. And his lover — the leading man — was so grief-stricken, he couldn't go on with the show.

That meant a new actor, Michael Ryken, had to step in at the last second. He spent the time learning his lines, while producer Kimberly Mayer scrambled to find some costumes.

Well, I saw the opening Saturday night, and I can report that the costumes were great and Ryken was brilliant. In fact, the whole company was.

From the moment the orchestra struck up the opening notes, I knew I was in for a fun ride, because director Todd Ewing wisely trotted out the chorus line and had them boop-boop-a-doop their way through the entire overture.

The reason I call "Crazy For You" the "new" Gershwin musical is that it's only been around since 1992. Basically, it's an excuse to cram as many Gershwin songs as possible into two hours.

And what songs? "Embraceable You," "Shall I We Dance?" "Slap That Bass," "Nice Work If You Can Get It," "They Can't Take That Away From Me" and the exquisite "Someone to Watch Over Me," to name just a few.

Unless you really know what you're doing — and have the talent to back it up — a production like this could be a disaster.

But done right, with singers who can actually sing, dancers who can actually dance, and a director who knows the importance of pace and timing, the whole thing comes up lighter than a soufflé. That's what happened Saturday night.

Kudos all around, especially to Ewing, choreographer Kris Bell (owner of Studio J in Berkeley), leading lady Terri J. Skye (who makes the phrase "lovely and talented" more than just a cliché), the aforementioned Mr. Ryken, and fellow actor John Dey. One of the highlights of the show is a hilarious mirror-image *pas de deux* Ryken and Dey perform, a loving parody of a classic Marx Bros. routine.

And a special kudo for the youngest member of the cast, 12-year-old Sam Black, who — when he isn't singing and dancing up a storm — plays first base for the Cubs in the Albany Little League.

The Contra Costa Civic Theater, which produced this show, is 37 years old. I regret to say that this is the first one of their productions I've seen. It won't be the last.

...

Incidentally, if you love musicals as much as I do, I urge you to visit Washington, D.C. before July 7. There's a great exhibit until then at the National Portrait Gallery called "Red Hot & Blue: A Salute To The American Musical," and it has stuff you wouldn't believe, including film of George M. Cohan (looking and moving a lot like Jimmy Cagney, by the way) Irving Berlin's piano, Judy Garland's ruby slippers from "The Wizard of Oz" and Paul Robeson singing "Old Man River" from the original "Show Boat."

But my favorite are the two self-portraits painted by George and Ira Gershwin.

George was tall and slim and elegant and a lady's man like you wouldn't believe. He must have bedded every actress and starlet both on Broadway and in Hollywood; but he never could commit himself to any of them, and he never married.

Ira, on the other hand, was short and dumpy, and he stayed married to the same woman his whole life.

But despite their differences, they had one thing in common: They both agreed that George was a genius.

(Ira was no slouch himself. It's hard to beat lyrics like "Loving in your arms is so delectable, dear/I'm afraid it isn't quite respectable, dear.")

Anyway, they were both talented amateur artists. And they painted their self-portraits showing themselves in the identical pose: Standing at the easel, painting the picture.

With one difference: George painted himself dressed in top hat, white tie and tails. Ira painted himself in his underwear.

...

At parties, you could always find George in the center of the room, playing his own music on the piano while everyone admired him. Ira preferred to sit in a corner, beaming lovingly on his adored brother.

Then George died suddenly and unexpectedly from what turned out to be a brain tumor. Ira was devastated. A few days later, he found a piece of music on George's piano — the last tune George ever wrote. Ira penned some lyrics for it. In a few simple words, he said goodbye:

It's very clear, our love is here to stay.
Not for a year, but ever and a day.
The Rockies may tumble, Gibraltar may crumble,
They're only made of clay.
But our love is here to stay.

Martin Snapp's column appears every Thursday in the Voice. Write Martin c/o Hills Newspapers, 2936 Domingo Ave., Berkeley 94705, phone him at (510) 273-9039, or e-mail him at Snapp@BMIG.ore or Catman1@creative.net

Friedman wins approval of 3; Bartke abstains

EL CERRITO — Mark Friedman will fill the City Council seat left vacant by the unexpected resignation of Mac Ritz last month. Three of four council members opted for a "fresh" new face when choosing among the seven applicants, though they took two hours Monday night to come to the decision. Councilmember Jane Bartke abstained from the deciding vote.

Ritz's unexpired term has almost seven months remaining; at the November election, three seats will be open to new candidates, including Friedman, if he chooses to run for a regular term.

Friedman may be less publicly known in El Cerrito than some of the other candidates for the position. A resident for 7.5 years, he has not served on any official city committees or commissions. He does, however, have wide skills and experience in a variety of issues facing El Cerrito in the months to come, including budget planning, labor contracts and redevelopment projects.

Those skills were among the qualities that attracted Mayor Norma Jellison, Mayor Pro Tem Norman La Force and Councilmember Gina Brusatori to Friedman as the right choice for the position. Councilmember

Bartke, however, was concerned that Friedman has obtained his experience in Alameda County rather than in Contra Costa County.

When Bartke first listed the candidates she had considered as her top three choices among the seven applicants, Friedman's name was included. At that point, the lack of Contra Costa County connections was her only stated objection. By the end of the meeting, Bartke would not support Friedman as the correct choice and instead strongly advocated for former City Councilmember Chuck Lewis as the best person to be a "caretaker" of the city for the seven months remaining of Ritz's term, though Lewis had not been among her top three choices. (She said he had always been fourth on her list.)

When the choices were obviously narrowing down to Friedman and Lewis, Bartke several times raised an incident that made her question Friedman's ability to "produce" in El Cerrito.

Friedman is El Cerrito's representative to the Contra Costa Transportation Partnership Advisory Board. Because of that, Bartke was very concerned that he did not avail himself of an opportunity to "hear (the

council's) viewpoints" on an important transportation issue, the proposed increase in transit fares payable to the West Contra Costa Transportation Committee. Bartke had called for a session on that issue March 17, and Friedman did not attend. The meeting was public, but Friedman was not on the council's regular agenda.

Friedman was appointed to the advisory board at the council's previous meeting on Tuesday that he was interviewed for the position after the interview.

He was not present when his name was discussed or when the upcoming study session was held. He also said that, when he received information that he had been appointed, he was told about the study session scheduled for the following meeting.

During the personal candidate interview, Bartke did not ask Friedman why he had not attended the session.

In the end, Bartke would not support Friedman. She implied that she had concerns about his qualifications and said she would abstain from the vote.

Council

Continued from front page

my skills and experience to my home community. This is a vital time for the future of our city, and I want to help shape that future as a city council member."

Candidates were asked to list the two or three things they'd most like to accomplish as a member of the El Cerrito City Council. Friedman said first he would like to "help to shepherd the redevelopment process with an emphasis on El Cerrito Plaza, (the) Del Norte BART Station Area project, and the Del Norte Marketplace."

"These projects will shape the future of our community for decades," he said. Thus, he wants to see them "implemented in a timely, successful, and publicly understood and supported manner."

Friedman has a strong interest in "sustainable development," which he defines as development that will have "no negative impact or minimal negative impact on the environment" and will function "in harmony

with the surrounding neighborhood and community." He is a board member of the Citizen's Network for Sustainable Development, a national organization.

Because of that interest, he said, he places high priority on "integrating public transit, urban creek restoration, appropriate housing, and people-oriented development." He also stated his dislike for "the homogenization and chain store sameness of much commercial development," while admitting that "this type of retail has the upper hand in our economy."

He pledged himself to reaching out to the members of the community in an attempt to "incorporate diverse opinions into the decision-making process."

Friedman also shared his personal opinion of the City Council/Agency Board's commitment to sustainable development.

"The Agency Board is faced with the challenge of reshaping our city's commercial future and in maximizing sales tax revenue, which is the primary revenue

source we can expand. I feel that the board has failed to incorporate principles of sustainability that they perceive them to be practical," he said.

"I think the principles of sustainability are being developed in terms of their practical application. We in El Cerrito have a great opportunity to implement those principles."

Friedman characterized the City Council's role of sustainable development as "believes, however, that 'in the heat of the moment' it is an imperative to revert to business as usual."

For his part, Friedman hopes to "implement principles of sustainability in areas where they are practical even when it appears to present insurmountable obstacles."

As a second priority, Friedman spoke of "develop methods for ensuring the financial health of city government."

Mire

Continued from front page

emerge victorious.

The group is suing over an action taken by the council in January to waive the "drop dead date" of Feb. 1, 1997 in the development agreement approved by city voters as part of Measure F. According to CRG President David Arkin, while the group feels good about their chances of winning their first lawsuit, which is currently on appeal, they feel even better about the second.

"I think we have a very strong case here," says CRG attorney Bob Outis, who has provided the legal fuel, "without payment," for CRG's anti-cardroom machine.

Others, however, do not feel better about anything. "I don't see any end to these lawsuits," says Mayor Bob Good, who cast the sole no vote against the original proposal but has since gone along with the mandate given by voters.

According to Outis, that mandate was obtained illegally, and the mayor, in forceing no end to the litigation, could be correct: "If they keep violating the law," Outis says, "I suppose it's likely we'll win."

Increasingly complex issues

As the months have dragged on since Measure F was first approved, the complexity of the issue has grown exponentially. In the first lawsuit, for example, which was filed in 1995, CRG challenges, among other things, the very question voters answered nearly two-and-a-half years ago.

Voters not only approved a cardroom, but did so, according to the language of the ballot measure, "in order to provide revenue for the City of Albany, create jobs, provide for an Albany Bay Trail, and allow Albany waterfront access." A violation of the law, claims CRG, "the purpose of which is to entice the electorate to vote in favor (of the cardroom)." Not so, claims the city, leaving yet another matter for the courts to decide.

In more recent months, the new question of whether the council had a right to waive a portion of a voter-approved development agreement has been raised, with CRG and the City of Berkeley falling on one side,

and Ladbroke and Albany on the other. A majority of council members are now cardroom opponents, yet they voted 4-1 to waive the "drop dead date."

A former CRG board member (Jon Ely) is now on the council, and says he will most likely participate in closed sessions regarding the second lawsuit (Ladbroke said they would object to him sitting in on closed sessions regarding the first suit, but has not dealt with the matter of the second, says one of the company's attorneys, Amy Forbes).

In a brief submitted to the appeal court, the city claimed that if the "meritless" CRG litigation which has delayed the project was not resolved by Dec. 31, 1996, that lack of action "may kill the development agreement which voters approved." Now, faced with a second lawsuit, the city will have to argue a somewhat opposite position: that the lack of action did not kill the project, and the cardroom is still on track.

Legal quagmire

The above are but a small sample of the issues, raised in hefty batches of legal briefs, surrounding what once, in theory, presented itself as a simple yes or no question. CRG has asserted the project should have undergone environmental review before being placed on the ballot, and that city voters were not so well-informed when they split nearly down the middle when faced with Measure F.

"What has been at the core of this whole process is money and a revenue-hungry city administration," Arkin says. "We're more upset about the process than the project. This case is not about stopping the expansion of gambling, although there is ample concern for that. I really strongly feel that this process is furthering a dangerous loophole in (the California Environmental Quality Act.)"

City Attorney Robert Zweben puts a somewhat different spin on the situation. In addition to upholding his previous legal assertions, all of which, of course, lead to the conclusion that CRG's two lawsuits are without merit, he points to another consequence of the long-belayed cardroom. "This lawsuit has cost the taxpayers over four million dollars," Zweben says, pointing to revenue which the city would have gained had no lawsuit been filed and had the project been

applied for and approved.

"That assumes what CRG has been saying," says Outis in response. "That the project is a foregone conclusion."

While the issue has, of course, opened up the community and spawned endless round of sparring, it has also put a number of people in positions.

Good, for example, found the cardroom machine voted against placing on the ballot in 1994, and of the council in his very first meeting. Councilmember Peggy Thomsen, a cardroom opponent, also voted in favor of extending a project opposed.

"It was a tough position to be put in," says Thomsen, who, at her second meeting, the council, voted to extend the agreement, and put the city in the position of facing a possible lawsuit. "It was a really, really hard thing to do."

The litigation has not, however, changed minds among those who first promoted the cardroom at least not in any drastic fashion.

"If I had it to do all over again, I wouldn't have been enough time to really give people the information they felt they didn't get," says Councilmember Elizabeth Baker. "I still think this was a bad proposal. To me, it just cost a tremendous amount of energy (the litigation) have been better utilized for the good of the city."

"It's a pity that we live in a system where we seem to only be able to work with each other through litigation," says Michael Feiner, a cardroom supporter who was on the Fiscal Task Force back in 1994. "They're accomplishing really is delay."

CRG members, of course, do not agree. As mentioned above, they say confidence has grown since the second lawsuit, which, like the first, will be proposed cardroom if successful. And all have voiced confidence in the first lawsuit, anticipated, will be decided this summer.

If the city wins the appeal of the first lawsuit, has the second, and an appeal in that case, then, Albany residents on both sides of the issue, what they have done for nearly two-and-a-half years.

criticized the system, saying it was not good from the system what it puts in.

"They've been pouring more money into the system and getting out," said West. "This has been getting out for a long, long time."

Others have said that Concord residents, extensive use of branches that are in other cities but are close to them in proximity.

Supervisor Joe Canciamilla voted against the library because of the Concord decision. Hildebrand, Canciamilla felt some sort of loyalty from Concord should be written into the Stark continues to hope that the county is shrinking general fund monies for other services and pursue another option to satisfy the need.

In a fourth decision, the supervisors said that there will be a new countywide ballot for library funding and that the measure will be "re-voted." If the assessment passes in one region, others, it can still go into effect there, without branches reaping its benefits.

The supervisors also asked cities to replace their own library funding measure on the same ballot. The timing for the ballot measure has been settled, though 1998 is being discussed.

"We had to be so rushed in our planning that B and we didn't quite make it," said Hildebrand, absolutely can't afford to fail again. There goes into a good campaign.

"Think what the difference would be in this city in the county giving its official endorsement," she went on to say. "We need to have leaders and officials working with us."

Library

Continued from front page

"We reach people better than most places," she said.

Part of the credit for that effectiveness goes to efficiency and expertise, according to the study conducted and the general opinion of most of the players.

"We definitely feel good about our staff's performance," said West, who is El Cerrito's official representative to the county's Library Commission.

As part of the second charge to the subregional boards, however, the supervisors authorized "a series of performance contracts to be drawn up that will state what return on investment is expected from each of the branches," said Stark, who is a board member of the Friends of the El Cerrito Library. "An outside auditor will do the evaluations."

Should service levels not balance out with costs, subregional boards would ultimately have the ability to authorize a municipality's withdrawal from the system.

The original commissioned study did not find economies that could be accomplished by making any changes in staffing.

"By any objective measure you care to employ, we have an incredibly efficient system," Stark said. "We have an amazingly efficient and professional staff."

As an example, he pointed to the number of daily over-the-counter book checkouts throughout the system. "We have 50 percent greater productivity in that area than Alameda County has," he said.

According to Hildebrand, the comparisons were made based on full-time equivalent employees.

"It shows we are incredibly productive," she said.

"We check out more materials per staff member than just about any other library in the state."

(The number of checkouts more than doubles the state and national average.)

She also said the number of reference questions per reference librarian is higher than both the state and national average.

Hildebrand said the library staff does not object to the inclusion of performance standards in the resolution. She said the staff has nothing to hide and is interested in "expanding trust in the community." The performance contracts are for the system, not the individual employees and are similar to many other contract evaluations made in city government, she noted. "We have been proven to be very efficiently run; we want to continue to run efficiently," she said. "This is our agreement to do that."

If a jurisdiction believes it can deliver the same service for 10 percent less cost, can convince the auditor of that fact, and cannot come to some kind of "meet and confer" resolution on the cost, the supervisors' resolution does allow that jurisdiction to withdraw from the system, taking its Return to Source monies with it.

One year notice must be given, however, and the entire subregional board must vote its approval. (Stipulations are also made as to how costs can be reduced; volunteers may not be substituted for professional staff members, for example.)

In a third decision Tuesday, the supervisors agreed that the City of Concord can build its own library, with an initial \$1.5 million grant from the county's general fund and an ongoing \$170,000 per year. Concord has

Trust, planning bring results

you ever notice how life is? You do some things in one way and it works out well for you. In another case and it just doesn't work out as well.

A company recommends getting a handle on remodeling costs as possible—while the design is in the planning stage. A client with the understanding of what a dream will cost makes an informed decision whether or not to fall in love with the plans.

A contractor involved as early as possible as part of the team you hire to help get your project underway. This is in direct contrast to the way that depends on a completed set of drawings being used to solicit bids from several contractors. In the end, a common outcome is that the project as designed does not get completed because it costs more than the budget.

Several years ago I had the opportunity to interact with two different clients, each of whom had an idea to take the project far down the road to completion with no input from the architect about costs. Let's look at both situations.

The first client engaged the help of a noted local architect known for attention to detail. We had the opportunity to look at the plans just before they were ready to be submitted to the building department.

This client was interested in working with a contractor to get a handle on costs and to get the project built. We had done a remodel for her friend and so our name was passed along for consideration.

After an initial interview to become get to know each other and a thorough check of our references, we were hired to do a preliminary proposal for the project. After an on-site visit with critical subcontractors, I produced the proposal on the basis of the very well developed preliminary plans.

As has happened so often, the total cost generated for the project exceeded the client's budget. Here is where it gets interesting.

What did she do? Give up? No. A combination of factors gave the three of us (the client, architect and contractor) the ability to work together to finish the project. Here are two:

- Trust among all the participants

allowed for a highly collaborative approach to reworking the plans to fit the budget. The client had confidence in the ability of the architect and the contractor to combine the critical needs of the project with what she could afford.

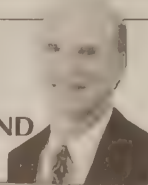
- Careful planning made it possible to reduce the contingency money the clients needed to have "just in case" from 10 percent of the proposed total to 5 percent or less. Getting clear about the project's exact needs was supposed to solve as opposed to responding only to what was on the plans made this happen.

Now let's look at the interaction with a second client. We were recommended to this client by an architect who is very interested in having a builder provide cost analysis early in the planning process. The architect recommended more than one contractor for the client to interview and consider. We were chosen to prepare a preliminary proposal.

Again, when the proposal was completed, the preliminary idea of cost was greater than what the client wanted to spend. So what was

FROM THE GROUND UP

PAUL WINANS



the client's response?

Find another contractor to price the project. Sounds reasonable, right? Except that is not what the process that had been started was about.

Remember the first client? We worked together to make the project buildable. In that case trust was in place to the degree that allowed the client to work with what we presented to her even though it was not what she wanted to hear. Through an ongoing dialogue that continued while the project was underway the work was completed and the client felt very well served.

The second client's project was never built. He could not find someone to do the work within his budget and decided to do no work at all. My sense is that he felt very disap-

See WINANS on page 14

Interest rates mixed as market stabilizes

On April 10 the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation's (Freddie Mac) Primary Mortgage Market Survey showed that the nationwide average for the 30-year fixed rate mortgage for the week fell 3 basis points to 8.15 percent from last week's average of 8.18 percent.

In the second week of April 1996, this bellwether rate stood at 8.05 percent.

The average start rate for the one-year Treasury-indexed adjustable-rate mortgages (ARMs) rose 11 basis points from last week's average of 5.80 percent to 5.91 percent.

A year ago, the national average for the one-year ARM start rate was 5.80 percent.

This week's average for 15-year fixed rate mortgages, a popular option in the refinancing market, is 7.67 percent, up 3 basis points from last week's average of 7.70 percent.

A year ago, the average 15-year interest rate was 7.56 percent.

"Long-term interest rates seem to have settled down since the Federal Reserve raised short-term rates a few weeks ago," said Freddie Mac Chief Economist Robert Van Order.

"We probably won't see much movement in these figures until the release of the next employment figures or the Consumer Price Index."

This year Freddie Mac celebrates the 26th consecutive year of the Primary Mortgage Market Survey, having tracked mortgage interest rates since 1971.

Freddie Mac is a stockholder-owned corporation chartered by Congress in 1970 to create a continuous flow of funds to mortgage lenders. The organization supplies lenders with the money to make mortgages and then packages these mortgages into marketable securities.

In this way Freddie Mac sustains a stable mortgage credit system and reduces the mortgage rates

See RATES on page 14

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Recently remodeled. Two 1BR/1BA units in great building. Walk to Gourmet Ghetto, BART and campus. **Jerry Long 486-1495**
- KEELER, NORTH BERKELEY.....\$209,000**
JUST LISTED! Sweet and sunny 2 bedroom cottage with view. Large master with skylight, utility room and hardwood floor. **Holly Rose 486-1495**
- 2799 PIEDMONT, BERKELEY/ELMWOOD.....\$239,500**
JUST LISTED! Beautifully remod. condo in elegant Elmwood 4-plex. 2BR, FDR, gorgeous kit w/ granite counters, incrd. frpl. Tree-lined street, walk to College Ave. shops, restaurants. **Nancy Silver 486-1495**
- 1811 MILVIA, NORTH BERKELEY.....\$239,500**
JUST LISTED! Move-in condition Victorian! 3BR, 1.5BA, remodeled kitchen, 2 frpls, stroll to restaurants, campus & BART. **Rita Zwerdling 486-1495**
- 2078-80 EMERSON, BERKELEY.....\$219,000**
JUST LISTED! Wonderful duplex, great for owner occupant. 2 bedrooms in each unit, garden, skylights, partially remodeled, parking, near BART. **Barbara Marienthal 486-1495**
- 1904 MILVIA, NORTH BERKELEY.....\$209,900**
High ceilinged beauty, lovely remodeled home next to Ohlone Park. 2+BR/2BA, new kitchen, new foundation and roof. Walk to campus, shopping, restaurants and BART. **Barbara Marienthal 486-1495**

OAKLAND

- WOOD DR, MONTCLAIR.....\$610,000**
Great indoor-outdoor living in park-like setting. 4BR/3BA, formal dining, separate breakfast room, rec room & library. **Ruby Ng 339-1174**
- BROADWAY TER, UPPER ROCKRIDGE.....\$469,000**
Shining ceilings, hwdw floors, spectacular views. Great shining carpet is made for today's casual living. Great separation of space. Mt. Tam, Angel Island, SF views are sublime. **Joan Alford 339-1174**
- 2749 CARISBROOK DR, PIED. PINES.....\$399,000**
One level home in beautiful private garden setting. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, updated kitchen with family/breakfast room. Master bedroom has separate office/study. **Judy Maher 339-1174**
- 101 STARVIEW CT, HILLER HGHLS.....\$398,000**
3 bedroom, 2.5 bath home with views of San Francisco, Oakland and bridges. Upgraded throughout. A real beauty. **Ollie Hammerel 339-1174**

OAKLAND



854 LONGRIDGE, CROCKER HGHLS.....\$455,000
Traditional charm. Beautifully restored 3+BR, 3+BA, gourmet kitchen, master bedroom suite, great architectural detail. **Dian Hymer 339-1174**

64 STARVIEW DR, HILLER HGHLS.....\$349,000
Spacious home situated on a circular drive. Bright and cheery, extra storage. Views of SE bay and bridges from master. **Ollie Hammerel 339-1174**

6185 WESTOVER, MONTCLAIR.....\$315,000
Piedmont Pines contemporary. Elegant home in wooded canyon setting. Stylish split-level with 4BR, 3BA, raised formal dining, broad picture windows and decks. **Jeanne McHugh 486-1495**

6286 COLBY, ROCKRIDGE.....\$257,000
Vintage bungalow, c. 1910. 2+BR, formal dining and deep park-like yard. **Candace Hyde-Wang 486-1495**

724 CALMAR, CROCKER HGHLS.....\$255,000
What curb appeal! Inviting country colonial with special ambience. Wonderful details of the craftspeople of 1918's. Peaceful outlook of the East Bay hills. A must see! 2BR, 1BA, plus room with separate entrance. Crocker School. **Ruby Ng 339-1174**

1908 CLEMENS, OAKMORE.....\$239,500
Enjoy the ambience from this private garden retreat! Bay views from garden and living room... a real plus. 2 bedroom, 1 bath Mediterranean style home. Come and recharge from the hectic pace of today's living! **Karen Lum 339-1174**

447 43RD, TEMESCAL.....\$168,000
Move right in to this charming 2BR, 1BA bungalow. Established neighborhood, easy San Francisco commute. Great value! **The Longs 486-1495**

2618 55TH, MAXWELL PARK.....\$159,500
This home is a pleasing blend of original charm and tasteful updating. So rarely found at this price. **Kevin McMullen 339-1174**

BY APPOINTMENT



887 TRESTLE GLEN, TRESTLE GLEN.....\$369,000
Stately English Tudor. Wonderful floor plan, regal living room, formal dining, light-filled family rm/office. Lush gardens. **Adrienne Broché 339-1174**

CLAREMONT PINES.....\$895,000
Outstanding new construction by Mark Becker. View! Level-in. Will be finished in May. 4BR/2.5BA. Mediterranean style. **James Duffy 339-1174**

ELEGANCE, GLAMOUR IN EL CERRITO HILLS.....\$888,000
JUST LISTED! Bay & canyon views from this custom built 5BR/4BA + spacious downstairs in-law. Constructed with top quality from gourmet kit to terrazzo tile & designer lighting. Lovely ldsccp, deck & lg back yard. **486-1495**

OAKLAND HILLS / SKYLINE.....\$785,000
Unique and beautiful custom built home. A dramatic home with large square footage. Fabulous view. 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, pool, sauna, game room, loft, wine room & much more. **Don Coelho 339-1174**

GORGEOUS BAY VIEWS FROM EL CERRITO HILLS.....\$595,000
8 years new! Custom 4 bedroom, 3 bath home on 1/2 acre lot. Includes family room, formal dining plus gourmet kitchen with sunny breakfast room. Truly remarkable views of the bay! **486-1495**

BERKELEY CAPE COD TRADITIONAL.....\$285,000
JUST LISTED! North Berkeley Gourmet Ghetto location. Freshly painted inside and out. 3 bedrooms, 1.5 bath home with formal dining room, and large living room. **486-1495**

UPPER ROCKRIDGE.....\$278,500
Wonderful 2BR/1BA with updated kitchen, family room, oak floors, fireplace, art studio 2-car garage. Next to Hillcrest School. **James Duffy 339-1174**

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Getting rid of waste

This weekend may be the time to clean out the garage or get rid of that unsightly pile in the back yard or the back corner of the house.

Perhaps you've been putting off the task because of "things" lying around you just don't know what to do with: the rest of that varnish from when you finally got around to finishing that table, the oil from the last time you decided to save money and change the oil in the car yourself and or the half a can of smelly insecticide that worked so well on those invading ants

(it's no wonder they left!)

If there were a way to quickly and conveniently rid your household of these unwanted items, you'd certainly want to know about it.

Well, Alameda County Household and Hazardous Waste may be your answer.

You can rest assured knowing that 80-85 percent of the waste collected at their facilities is either recycled or reused.

Call the Alameda County Household and Hazardous Waste at (800) 606-6606.

Winans...

Continued from page 13

pointed and could not connect with someone with more experience than he had to guide him.

I am still sad that we could not help the second client realize his dream. I feel like I did not do a good enough job helping him understand how much an experienced builder could help him.

But, to this day, the first client thinks her decision to work with a company she trusted to make her project buildable was one of the best decisions she ever made.

I really think she could see the importance of verifying competence and developing trust because of the unfortunate experiences she had trying to contract with painters and roofers on her own in the past.

Consider how differently these two situations were resolved. It is always hard to plan and do a remodeling project. It is easier if you do the following:

- Choose people who you can trust to help you through this difficult endeavor;
- Commit early to a well-thought-out planning process that includes cost information;
- If the preliminary idea of costs for the project comes in higher than expected, don't be surprised.
- Work with the people on your team to make the project fit your budget and solve the problems with your house at the same time.

Good luck.
Paul Winans, CR, is co-owner of Winans Construction, Inc., an Oakland-based general contracting firm founded in 1978. He can be reached at 653-7288.

Rates...

Continued from page 13

paid by home buyers. Over the years, Freddie Mac has opened the doors for one in six home buyers in America.

On March 31 the Federal Home Loan Bank Board pegged the 11th

District Cost of Funds Index (COFI) for April payments at 4.723 percent, down 10 basis points from the 4.821 percent that was in effect for March payments.

The COFI is the index widely used by the savings and loan industry for its adjustable rate mortgages.



DON DUNNING, CRB, CRS

WHAT YOU DON'T KNOW CAN HURT YOU

Hot market tips: buyer

Part one of a two-part series

Now that the pendulum has swung back to a seller's market, the rules have once again changed. Strategies that would likely have been effective a year or two ago no longer apply. In a seller's market, there is intense demand by buyers for a diminished supply of houses. This situation is obviously advantageous to most sellers and a challenge for a majority of buyers.

Here are some points to keep in mind:

Today's reality is temporary. Some buyers make the mistake of assuming that present conditions are permanent. This can lead to costly miscalculations. The market goes through cycles. The current climate will eventually evaporate.

As a buyer, think ahead to the time you might be selling. Despite fantasies of staying in your new home forever, circumstances unexpectedly change and you may need to sell sooner than you anticipated.

Prices rise quickly and decrease slowly. The last market frenzy occurred from 1987 through 1989. Most buyers who purchased in 1987 and 1988 did fine. A significant number of these who bought

between 1989 and 1993, however, paid prices that, even today, translate to negative or zero equity.

It is preferable to buy at the beginning of the upturn. (See item above). The later into the hot market you buy, the greater your resale risk if the market slows.

Get pre-approved with a local lender. Pre-approved means your funds, debts, employment and credit history will be thoroughly researched and documented. The only remaining step will be the lender's appraisal of the property once you have an accepted contract. This makes you a strong, serious buyer and will give the seller and his listing agent more confidence in your ability to perform and close the escrow.

In today's market, multiple offer situations are common. Buyers with pre-approval letters from their lender have a greater likelihood of getting their offer accepted than those without this substantiation.

Do not confuse pre-approval with pre-qualification. Pre-qualification can mean nothing more than the fact that you had a conversation with a lender. It will not give you the advantage you need.

Use a local agent. A small percentage of buyers ignore this admo-

nition, often to their detriment. Local agents know the territory and can provide in-depth information about neighborhoods, prices, schools, shopping, lenders, inspectors, tradespeople, and issues of concern in the specific area.

With homes selling quickly, it is difficult enough for local agents to preview new listings on a daily basis; for out-of-area Realtors, it is almost impossible. You will probably never even hear about some properties until it is too late. This was exactly the lament of a young couple who loved one of my recent listings. Working with an out-of-area agent, they only discovered it on their own after my "sold" sign went up.

Local agents hear about new properties coming on the market from their networking with other local agents. Had this couple been working with a local Realtor, they would have had a better chance of knowing about it in time.

Thorough home inspections are essential. If there is time, some agents will counsel their buyers to have a home inspection completed prior to making an offer when there is the possibility of multiple offers. The buyer can then write a contract with no inspection contingency, giving him an edge over competing offers which have included such a clause.

It is critical, nonetheless, to be careful not to get so caught up in the auction atmosphere that you discount the seriousness—spell that expense—of specific problems. Likewise, buying "As Is" should be done with caution.

One of the barriers to getting an inspection from a competent inspec-

tor is that the fee is up one to two hundred dollars. This could be a significant expense for a buyer. Experienced buyers ask questions about the background, history, and his or her insurance coverage. Understand the "multiple offer" reports. Accept a pest report was ordered by the seller. This is no more than a pest inspection. The company he was doing it was done by a company between "Section One" and "Section Two" items in a report. Section Two items are innocuous and can cost the buyer to accept responsibility for understanding the conditions.

Act decisively. Learn the neighborhoods of open houses and make a bid. The more you better decisions. When you find a fast-moving local, write an offer that will generally win and allow others to bid.

How to handle when the market is now. Agents often listings in sought-after areas attract more than one offer will then suggest that offers not be heard at broker's tour and firm. If this is the case, choice but to play by rules and wait until day to present your offer. See DUNNING

MARVIN GARDE REAL ESTATE



2005 TAPSCOT, EL CERRITO CUSTOM BUILT EXECUTIVE HOME

Enjoy outstanding quality and condition in this original owner. Located in the El Cerrito hills, walking distance to BART, with a bay and bridge views. This exceptional property has 5 bedrooms, 3 baths, 2 large family rooms and much, much more. MARY GRAY/MELISSA EISENBERG 527-9111, 466-5843, 466-5874

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Extremely well maintained four unit complex in very desirable Richmond Annex location, close to all services. Two 2-bedroom and two 1 bedroom units with lucrative monthly income and tenant history. MARY GRAY 527-9111, 466-5843

GOLDEN GATE BRIDGE VIEW

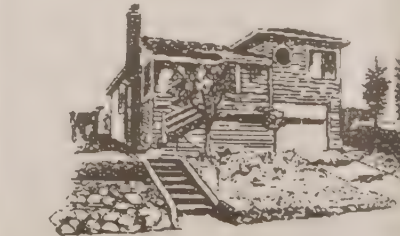
Wonderful bay view! New roof, interior paint, refinished floors, new fence and pest control cleared. Extra rooms and basement for expansion or workshop. HERMAN SUN 527-9111, 235-1669

SPACIOUS HOME WITH IN-LAW UNIT

Bright & sunny living space, updated kitchen, large level yard, 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, 2 fireplaces, hardwood floors AND a price! ROSITA THORNTON 527-9111, 273-9501

GOOD BUY!

Affordable 1 bedroom condo in secure, well maintained building, excellent Adams Point location. Ready to move-in. HERMAN SUN 527-9111, 235-1669



ADORABLE VIEW HOME

Split-level home with a great view of the bay and San Francisco. 2 bedrooms, plus unfinished potential 3rd bedroom. Formal living room. Peaceful cul-de-sac. DIANE MINTZ 527-1400, 527-2700

GRACIOUS BAY VIEW HOME

Comfortable 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath home with family room, fireplace & workshop. OPEN SUNDAY, 2-4:30, 416 KENTUCKY, BERKELEY. ANN ARRIOLA PLANT 287-8761, 527-2700

SUNNY CHARMING COTTAGE

Remodeled 1 bedroom cottage beside Strawberry Creek with detached artist studio. OPEN SUNDAY, 2-4, 1435 ALLSTON, BERKELEY. BRUCE SIMON 273-9593, 527-2700

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SPACIOUS ALBANY HOME.....\$226,000

3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms on two levels. Fireplace in living room, formal dining room, beautiful hardwood floors. One-car garage with interior access, good sized yard. House needs some termite work.

GREAT PRICE FOR ALBANY.....\$189,000

2 bedrooms, 1 bathroom - Great Price! Hardwood floors, newer roof, great basement storage, breakfast room. Easy access for transportation.

SPACIOUS BERKELEY TRADITIONAL.....\$590,000

Great price reduction for this beautiful traditional home with large formal rooms, 4 bedrooms and 3.5 bathrooms. Library on main level, plus-room upstairs. Two-car garage with interior access. Master bedroom suite has roof deck. Panoramic views!

DIANE SINDEL-DEUTSCHE, Broker

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EL CERRITO

HEART OF EL CERRITO / New Listing.....\$239,000

3BR, 2BA with spa, tile kitchen, workshop in yard, detached deck, approx. 1500 sq. ft., hwd flrs, 1-car gar. #W40296 Pat Prenderville 510-758-0314

GREAT BAY VIEW HOME IN THE HILLS / MOVE-IN COND!!.....\$229,000

2BR, 2.5BA, master suite with full bath, 2 fireplaces, garage with large bonus room, new neutral carpet, new paint, almost 1,600 sq. ft. #W39915 Geri Stern 510-234-7808

MILLION DOLLAR VIEW.....\$265,000

2BR, 1BA, 1 level rancher, excellent condition, garage, yard, fabulous neighborhood! Trust sale. #W40106 Magary Abbass 510-233-7329

EXCELLENT LOCATION / CITY LIGHTS / Price reduced again!.....\$269,900

3BR, 2BA, over 1,800 sq. ft. on a secluded street in the hills. Ultra clean 1/4 acre lot. New lino in kitchen, hardwood floors. #W38623 Ed Messner 510-799-3527

RICHMOND VIEW

ANOTHER RENOVATION!.....\$179,900

3BR, 2.5BA, new roof, new paint, new carpet, BANK OWNED! Family rm, 1-car gar, almost 1800 sq. ft. #W39098 Jack Burns Jr. 707-864-8870

CASTLE FOR SALE.....\$187,000

1503 Sequoia Ave., newer house + guest house. Wall to ceiling fireplace, big fabulous kitchen, adjacent to Wildcat Canyon. #W38665 Cynthia Burke 800-262-0949

OLD WORLD CHARM / NEAR EL CERRITO BORDER.....\$269,950

4BR, 3BA, over 2,500 sq. ft., 2-car detached garage, beautiful hardwood, modern kitchen, formal dining room, fireplace, bonus room and basement. #W39611 Carolyn Dopp 510-223-6700

SAN PABLO VIEW

BAY VIEW DUPLEX / INCOME PROPERTY.....\$130,000

Rare opportunity for a property you can comfortably live in and also produce excellent income. "As Is" sale. Over 2,200 sq. ft., two 2-car garages! Lot to 7,350 sq. ft., large owners unit, ample other unit. #5553 Geri Stern 510-234-7808

RITCHEY REAL ESTATE



NEW LISTING OPEN SUNDAY 4/23 2-5 PM 1912 CARQUEZ, RICHMOND VIEW ASKING \$154,000

Sunny, level-in 2 bedroom just north of Barrett and the El Cerrito line: new kitchen, new bath, seismic, and some upgraded systems. Lovely view of Mt. Tamalpais from the bedrooms and room for gardening. Great starter or retirement nest.

NEW LISTING

A ONCE IN A LIFETIME OPPORTUNITY

Here you can escape the hubbub of this busy world a few minutes off I-80 and retreat to the seclusion and serenity of your own Eden. Offered by the original owners who planted 10,000 trees, this 4,875 sq. ft., 4 bedroom, 3 1/2 bath timeless contemporary is sited on 55+/- acres and is bordered on three sides by Wildcat Canyon Regional Park. The pool, barn, orchards, hiking trails and wildlife are some of the many amenities offered by this extraordinary property located in the hills overlooking El Sobrante Valley. This is a dream come true for serious stewards of the land. Asking price is \$1,200,000.

NEW LISTING

GREAT UC STUDENT CONDO

You can't get much closer to UC than this contemporary complex at Dwight Way and Dana in the South Campus area. This 2 story, 2 bedroom, 2 bath unit has a fireplace, private deck, and sunny spaces for serious studying. Offered at \$210,000.

GLORIOUS RENOVATION

This charming 3 bedroom, 2 bath view Tudor on Arlington in Berkeley has been superbly remodeled from the roof to the foundation: dazzling gourmet kitchen, new wiring, new windows, and so much more. The original charm has been preserved: the vaulted, beamed ceilings, lovely tile work, 2 fireplaces, and gardens will warm your heart. \$389,500.

HOME & INCOME

Located on tree-lined Hearst Street near North Berkeley BART, this 3 bedroom house in front and full-sized 1 bedroom house in the rear are on a lot of over 7,200 square feet. This property offers lots of possibilities. Asking \$255,000

UNIQUE INVESTMENT

There's a good tenant in the lower office suite at \$740. per month and the sunny, upper office suite is available for an owner-user or new tenant PLUS a 3 bedroom rental house next door on one huge lot. You could walk to work in your slippers, just collect rents, or explore a lot split and sell the house. An investment with upside. \$275,000

INVESTMENTS

527-3060

New listings can be sweetly satisfying

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in real estate.

anything in this business
fun as a new listing. We
the owners get the
ready. We like looking at
as they come on the
comparing them with "our
We enjoy our excitement
approaches to open house
first time—it's like getting
opening night of a stage
com
regimens when an owner calls
he's thinking of selling.
we are already familiar with
and his house. Maybe we
to him or we've visited the
perhaps for a party. But of
point, all we have is the
and our imagination.
is on Sweet Street," we
is one of our favorite
popular with buyers too.

We look up the assessor's records
where we get several new pieces of
information. Probably these are ac-
curate but occasionally they aren't.
We'll have to see the house our-
selves to find out.

The assessor's records show that
the Sweet Street house has three
bedrooms and two baths. It was
built in 1910, contains 1600 square
feet and the lot is .16 acre. The
property was last sold in 1982 for
\$185,000.

This is all good news. The house
on Sweet Street is not enormous but
it is generously sized. The lot is not
huge but not small either. It is one of
the older houses on that block, hope-
fully with its original detailing still
intact. And, unless something is very
wrong, the owner is not going to
lose money when it sells, as he
might if he had bought more re-
cently for more money. We like
that.

"Wonder what kind of shape it's
in," we muse aloud. We search
around in our memories for other
clues. Sweet Street isn't in a slide or
earthquake zone and we're not
aware of any underground creeks
nearby.

The last few houses we saw on
Sweet Street, houses that we are
now describing out loud to one an-
other, were charming two-story
houses that sold quickly. So, if the
owner kept up the maintenance and
didn't make any strange alterations,
this should be a good house, a very
good listing.

The next day we go at the ap-
pointed time, and as we drive up the
street checking addresses, we say,
"Wouldn't it be nice if it were that
shingle house?" It turns out to be
the one next door, an older buff-
colored stucco, never painted be-
cause it was not intended to be. It
looks good.

The roof can't be very old, the
landscaping is attractive, there is a
deep front porch, and the trim—
painted an appealing blue-gray—is
in good shape. The original front
door looks solid and wider than
most.

We shake hands with the owner
and give him our cards. He shows
us around and we take notes: hard-
wood floors; fine Craftsman-style
fireplace; painted built-ins; wood

casement windows; original doors
and picture moldings.

The kitchen has an old gas
chrome-top stove. Lots of people
like them, including us. There is no
dishwasher but that's fine. There is
room for a table in the kitchen and
windows that could be replaced with
French doors opening to the yard.

Good, good. No aluminum win-
dows, no wrong-color Formica, no
'60s orange shag carpeting. The
bedrooms are fine and, although
one is very small, all have good
closets.

We're already thinking the price
might be \$300,000.

The yard is sunny and protected
from the eyes of the neighbors and
there is a nice maple tree. One bath-
room has recently been painted at-
tractively; the other one looks a
little dreary, could stand some work.

There is unfortunate, outdated
orange and white-flowered wallpa-
per in the hallway.

The whole house is neat and clean
but it feels crowded with furniture,
the basement is very full and it's
hard to see the floor or walls.

The furnace is old and there is
asbestos on the ducts. No earth-
quake retrofit has been done but the
foundation is concrete, visible to us
all the way around the outside of the
house, and we don't see any cracks.

The electrical system is still on

fuses. The fireplace has not been
used in many years but we can see
a rain cap on top of the chimney.

The owner of Sweet Street has
been offered a job in a town about
100 miles north. If possible, he'd
like to be done with the sale of the
house in three months.

"I'm sure I'm going to need to do
some work before I sell. I'd like
your advice on what would be best,"
the owner says. He'd also like to
know, of course, what the house
will sell for.

"We'd like to go away and think
before we answer your questions,"
we tell him. "We'll look at compar-
able sales, talk about what you
might do to get the best price, and
get back to you."

We're off and running! We talk
and think and research, then meet
with the seller again. We've made a
list of work we think he would do
well to complete. We go over the
items individually and talk about
the pros and cons and probable costs.

We order termite and fireplace
reports and work out a timetable.
We provide the names of an electri-
cian, also furnace and cleaning
people.

We show the owner on paper
how we came to the conclusion that
the house will likely sell for
\$325,000, and what he will net in
cash at that price. We will hone our



TARPOFF & TALBERT

pricing as he clears out the house
and prepares it for market.

Over the next few weeks, we
visit a number of times. We are
enjoying seeing the work progress.
We take the seller the required dis-
closures to complete. We're also
finding the right words for our news-
paper ads, have had a floor plan and
a sketch made of the exterior and
are working on our property flyer.

Finally there comes the satisfy-
ing day when all is done and ready—
the day we first show the house. Mr.
Sweet Street did his job; we did
ours. We are proud and pleased to
be standing in the living room as the
first agents come in the door.

"What a nice listing," one says.
"Can I use the phone to call my
buyer?"


Anet Tarpo and Pat Talbert are
licensed real estate agents and area
specialists who also offer hourly
real estate consulting and coach-
ing. They can be reached at 653-
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5563 KALES AVENUE
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Fantastic! **\$325,000.**

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(near Dwight)
Berkeley

\$229,000

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This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis.

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531-7000

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7130 HOMEWOOD. Sunny and private in Montclair 2 bedroom home \$275,000
with garage, huge deck and yard. Charm. Judy Farrell ext. 227

6115 ROCKRIDGE BLVD. SOUTH. Sunny sophisticated nontraditional 3BD/2BA \$352,000
skylights, hwd floors, great location, charming yard, garage. Stan Hammond 839-5846

6768 EVERGREEN AVE. Woodsy Montclair split-level 3+BD/2.5BA with spacious \$305,000
sunny decks and yard. Walk to regional parks. Kate Phillips 436-4100

7548 ALTURA PL. Take another look! Price reduced! New construction \$279,000
Bay view. Jackie Carter ext. 274


4354 LEACH. Just Listed! Move-in condition. 3 bedrooms, formal dining \$255,000
eat-in kitchen. Painted in and out. New roof, yard. Peter Nicolopoulos 339-9780

3925 ATLAS. New Listing! Charming 3BD/1BA, random plank floors, formal \$241,500
dining room, brkfst area, 2-car garage. Original wood details. Chris Christensen ext. 242

3947 ARDLEY. Value! Spacious 2BD plus office. Traditional floor plan \$219,000
with large living & dining. Sunny yard. Nancy Novick 482-2392

**HOMES WANTED! Many of our listings are pending in this strong seller's market.
Call us for a free, no-obligation market analysis of your home.**

SHOWN BY APPOINTMENT



ROCKRIDGE VALUE. Move right in! Charming upgraded craftsman, 3BD/2BA \$279,000
near BART. Fabulous kitchen & architectural details. Priced to sell. Judy Farrell ext. 227

SPANISH MEDITERRANEAN. Well cared for with country setting. 3BD/1BA \$299,999
formal dining, fireplace, large lot w/pool/garden. Get water from windmill. Jackie Carter ext. 274

NORTH OAKLAND UNITS. Classic triplex, high ceilings, hardwood floors, plus \$285,000
Craftsman Bungalow, 3 garages, excellent condition, solid units. Stan Hammond 839-5846

PRIME GLENVIEW LOCATION. Walk to shops and schools from this sunny \$249,900
4BD/2BA home. Remodeled kitchen and bath. Nancy & Chris ext. 254

NEW LISTING! Adorable starter with lots of charm. Walk to Piedmont Ave. Enclosed \$209,000
yard, garage, wood floors, formal dining room. Judy Farrell ext. 227

PRIDE OF OWNERSHIP. Cute 2BD/1BA home, beautiful hwd floors, living rm with \$199,000
frpl, formal dining, master with walk-in closet, 2-car attached garage. Jaya Bhimani 482-0860

CONDOMINIUMS

NEW CONDO LISTING! Cambridge house at 245 Perkins. Top floor 1BD unit \$93,000
great location. Anne Bruff 531-7006, x 283

MUST SELL! 2 bedroom value in Adams Point in smaller \$80,000
building with secure parking, balcony. Judy Farrell ext. 227

NEAR PIEDMONT AVE. Near 1BD/1BA condo in good bldg. Walk to \$66,000
transportation, shopping & SF carpool. Wendy Callaghan ext. 237

LOTS & LAND FOR SALE

2 NEW MONTCLAIR LISTINGS. Contiguous infill properties. \$130,000
Walk to Village, school, park. Peter & Ellen Nicolopoulos 339-9780

SOPHISTICATED BUYERS MONTCLAIR OPPORTUNITY. Panoramic view, yet \$125,000
just min.'s from downtown. Includes 3 lots! Needs utilities. Peter & Ellen Nicolopoulos 339-9780

NEW LISTING ON GRAND VIEW DR. Claremont fire lot with well \$97,500
documented plans for Mediterranean Villa. Peter & Ellen Nicolopoulos 339-9780

INCOME PROPERTIES FOR SALE

MORMON TEMPLE. 9 luxury 2BD units built as condos. Great tenants, \$725,000
great location. Anne Bruff 531-7006, x 283

GRAND LAKE TRIPLEX. Lovely 4BD/2BA traditional home plus two one bed \$429,000
townhouse units. Anne Bruff 531-7006, x 283

LIVE/WORK COMPLEX. House plus 2 non-confirming live/work studios, plus \$165,000
warehouse and workshop. Anne Bruff 531-7006, x 283

NO. OAKLAND MULTI-RES. BLDGS. Various duplexes through 8-plex \$165,000/\$470,000
prop. Nice nbgds, well maint. prop. w/stable rents. Statements ava. Frank Hennefer 654-6461

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What is my home worth?

Q: How do I determine the market value of my house in this market? What is the best pricing strategy to obtain the best possible sale?
E.C., Berkeley.

With very few notable exceptions in our society, when we want to buy something, we ask the price. If we want it, we buy it. If not, we don't. The asking price is the selling price. End of story.

It has always struck me as curious that the notable exceptions to the "fixed price" rule are at opposite ends of the financial spectrum. At the low end, at the Sunday garage sales and flea markets, we let loose our playful side and offer 50 cents for the \$2 ceramic pig. Our hearts may even beat a bit faster when we do, and often the process is worth more in the way of entertainment than the item itself.

Sometimes we are successful, and we pride ourselves at snatching a bargain. Sometimes not. Either way, we go on with our lives. At the other end of the spectrum are the big ticket items: cars and houses. There is an asking price, and a selling price, and though they may occasionally converge, they are two separate items, and everybody knows it.

Somehow the "fun" element diminishes when we are talking about thousands or even tens of thousands of dollars. And if the player's heart beats faster, it may be due to stress rather than enjoyment. This is heavy

stuff.

A few car makers and dealers recently figured out that not everyone has a grand time trying to figure out the relationship between asking and selling price. It dawned on them that some folks would prefer driving their old buggies into oblivion than face a negotiating process with a smiling car dealer. So they changed.

We are actually beginning to see the day when the sticker price on that shiny new car is precisely the price we must pay to own it. Will home prices ever be "fixed?" Don't hold your breath.

When you buy a new Saturn or Toyota, you are purchasing an item which has 250,000 exact clones, right down to the metallic paint. Assembly lines do not produce homes, and even if they did, each one would be plopped down on a unique parcel of earth that has no equal.

What is market value?

Appraisers define "market value" as the price a willing and able buyer pays for a property in an arm's length transaction. The truth of the matter is that nobody knows a home's true market value, not sellers, not buyers, not appraisers, not real estate agents. True market value is not established until the day the home sells and title transfers to the new owner.

In fact, there is such ambiguity about market value that estimates

can range by tens of thousands of dollars for just about any home. A recent cartoon in this publication showed an older, experienced agent advising a younger agent: "Appraising a home is very scientific," he says. "First agonize over all the pertinent sales data. Then we guess."

Comparison approach to value

In the most frequently used approach to value, the comparison approach, one takes a look at recent comparable closed sales. The only problem is, that quaint term comparable is just so much wishful thinking: there is no such thing. This is particularly true in our area, where there are few if any cookie-cutter neighborhoods. Can you think of even one comparable home to yours?

Agents and appraisers try to find sales as close as possible in time and geography to the subject property. Next, my personal preference is to search by living area, which I have found to be a more reliable variable than number of rooms. I do my search within a certain range.

For example, for a 1,200 square-foot home, I will search for homes between 1,000 and 1,400 square feet. I then add and subtract for amenities and condition—add so much for a view, subtract so much for a busy street, add for a remodeled kitchen.

Obviously this is a very subjective process: just how much is a

REAL ESTATE FORUM

BOB BLUMBERG

view worth? \$5,000? \$10,000? And, of course, there are views and there are views. So it goes. Nevertheless, if we find enough properties and plot them out, a pattern generally begins to emerge.

So much for "science". The rest is pure art.

This is where you must rely on your agent's intuitive sense. That sense will come from a combination of knowledge of the market, experience, and judgment. Multitudes of intangibles just do not show up on any spec sheet: the way the light hits the dining room, the color of the wood, the ambience. Once I do my homework and go over the results with a seller, as a final check I invite the staff of Red Oak agents to the house and ask for their separate opinions.

Pricing Tips

Base your comparisons on closed sales, not active listings. Homes on the market are interesting to view as competition, but asking prices often have little relationship to market value. And an owner should never rely exclusively on his own judgment. When it comes time to

See BLUMBERG on page 20

Prelim prime

After months of searching, you've finally found it: your perfect dream home. But is it perfect?

Will you be purchasing more than just a beautiful home? Will you also be acquiring liens placed on the property by prior owners? Have documents been recorded that will restrict your use of the property?

The preliminary report will provide you with the opportunity, prior to purchase, to review matters affecting your property which will be excluded from coverage under your title insurance policy unless removed or eliminated before your purchase.

To help you better understand this often bewildering subject, the California Land Title Association has answered some of the questions most commonly asked about preliminary reports.

Q: What is a preliminary title report?

A. A preliminary report is a report prepared prior to issuing a policy of title insurance that shows the ownership of a specific parcel of land, together with the liens and encumbrances thereon which will not be covered under a subsequent title insurance policy.

Q: What role does a preliminary

title report play in the home buying process?

A. A preliminary report contains the information about the title and the particular type of policy. The preliminary report is in advance of the title insurance policy, which will be issued as of the date of the preliminary report. The preliminary report is reviewed by the parties to the transaction and the title insurance policy is issued.

Thus, a preliminary report provides the opportunity for the removal of the items in the report which are not desirable to the purchaser.

Q: When is a preliminary title report issued?

A. Shortly after the purchase agreement is signed with the title company, the preliminary report will then begin to be prepared.

This process calls for a preliminary report to be prepared and reviewed by the parties to the transaction. The preliminary report is a preliminary report.

See PRELIMINARY



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NO CASH NEEDED! PANORAMIC VIEW! \$795,000
Creative seller may accept your present home as a down payment! Move up effortlessly to this 2+ acre, bay view masterpiece. 10 rooms, lawns, pool, sauna. HELEN NICHOLAS 339-8400



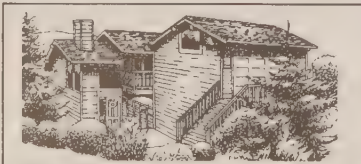
JUST LISTED IN BERKELEY \$545,000
Elegant 1914 Colonial, 5+BR, 3+BA. Original flavor and charm throughout. Huge LR, study, family rm., fm. DR, remodeled. kit, hwd floors, lots of storage. Mint condition. NAHID NASSIRI 531-1670



STARTING NEW CONSTRUCTION \$529,000
2670 sq. ft. on level lot and private road. Pick your own finish inside the way you want your home to look. 4BR, 2.5 BA, large family room and kit. plus three car garage. MEL COPLAND 339-8400



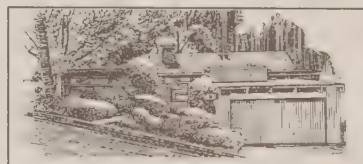
BEST VALUE IN ROCKRIDGE \$549,000
5BR, 3.5 BA Contemp., new construction, gorgeous interior, dining, wonderful kitchen, huge LR w/ vaulted ceilings, hardwood floors, great backyard, hwd flrs. NAHID NASSIRI 531-1670



SUN FILLED CONTEMPORARY \$479,000
Prestigious Piedmont Pines. Like new 3+ BR in private peaceful setting. Many upgrades. Plus rooms for hrm off/au pair rm, walk to regional park trails. LYN MURRAY 339-8400



JUST LISTED LARGE FAMILY HOME \$395,000
This home has 4BR, 2BA, remodel, kitchen, lovely gardens with hot tub, new roof, retrofitted, hardwood floors, move-in condition, terrific value. Open Sunday 2-4:30 p.m. MORRIS FEIGENBERG 547-6975



SOPHISTICATED CONTEMPORARY \$344,000
Privacy pervades as soon as you enter the gated courtyard; glass, wood, views are all part of the custom qualities great kitchen, wonderful storage. HAL MARCUS 339-9281



THE REGILLUS-LAKESIDE BEAUTY! \$149,500-\$159,000
Gracious Beaux Arts building, views of Lake Merritt and golf courses available, each with formal dining room, eat-in kitchen, BR, fireplace. HELEN NICHOLAS 339-8400

THE FOLLOWING PROPERTIES EXCLUSIVELY LISTED. PLEASE CALL FOR AN APPOINTMENT.

ESTATE SIZED, RESORT-LIKE.....\$749,000
Sophisticated & spacious on 1+ acre. 4BR, 3.5 BA, library, formal dining, gourmet kitchen w/ family rm. So private! Swimming pool & sauna. HELEN NICHOLAS 339-8400

PIEDMONT CENTRAL LOCATION.....\$589,000
Gracious Craftsman w/ 3BR, 2.5BA, den, office, sunroom, eat-in kitchen, formal dining with built-in buffet, gleaming hardwoods, fireplace, sconces. Landscaped! HELEN NICHOLAS 339-8400

PREMIER HOME - FIRST CLASS!.....\$535,000
3BR, 2.5BA dramatic Contemporary. Spectacular bay/bridge views from almost every room, formal dining room, kitchen family room combo, lovely LR, elaborate master, retreat w/deck. Custom built. Private. NAHID NASSIRI 531-1670

LG. CONTEMPORARY FAMILY HOME.....\$449,000
5BR, 3.5 BA with lg. family rm., FDR, eat-in-kitchen, lovely backyard w/awn and deck. Great in-law potential. Easy location for easy commute. CARIN CAROE 339-8400

SPACIOUS PIEDMONT PINES CONTEMP. \$420,000
4BR, 3BA over 3,500 square feet of living space, formal dining room, eat-in kitchen, rumpus room, expansive decks, detached garage with exercise room. CHARLENE CLAYBAUGH 339-8400 ext. 216

SMASHING CONTEMP. W/ BAY VIEWS.....\$419,500
Just reduced! 4BR, 2.5 BA, separate living room, fml. dining, fabulous kit & great room w/plc, stunning mstr. ste., decks for outdoor living. CHARLENE CLAYBAUGH 339-8400 ext. 216

AGE-SIZE LOCATION-STYLE-R-HOME.....\$419,500
5BR, 2.5 BA, huge storage, fireplace, Split level, exterior entry for office or in-law. ED LINDORFER 339-8400

A PRIZED SHARE OF BERKELEY HISTORY.....\$399,000
Henry Guterson design. Incredible living room with 20 foot vaulted ceilings, hardwood floors. The most distinctive home in the neighborhood. Gorgeous fenced yard, corner lot. NAHID NASSIRI 531-1670

MONTCLAIR AT ITS FINEST.....\$399,000
Fabulous home within walking distance to Montclair shops. A much to raise your family in. Great deck, family room and so much more. MICHAEL HARDING 654-2669

JULIA MORGAN STYLE MAKES \$60 K.....\$375,000
Elegant Adams Point vintage beauty! Huge authentic 1st floor flat w/ 3 fireplaces, garden, & carr. house, + 9 separate rental rms.; legal/versatile. D.C. HODGES, LYN MURRAY 339-8400

WONDERFUL ROCKRIDGE TRAD.....\$369,500
Immaculate 4BR, 3BA. Lovely living room with coved ceilings, fireplace, formal dining room, delightful newer kitchen w/ brkfst nook & deck overlooking gorgeous backyard & SF view. Hardwood floors, family room. NAHID NASSIRI 531-1670

ENCHANTING MONTCLAIR TUDOR.....\$359,000
This home has 4BR, 2BA, remodel, kitchen, lovely gardens with hot tub, new roof, retrofitted, hardwood floors, move-in condition, terrific value. Open Sunday 2-4:30 p.m. CHARLENE CLAYBAUGH 339-8400 ext. 216

NEW LISTING PIEDMONT HIDEAWAY.....\$355,000
Peaceful oak studded setting with hill views. Needs some TLC, yet much potential. 4BR, 2BA, decks & soaring ceilings. Open Sunday 2-4:30 p.m. 295 Scenic EARL SHENK 287-9590

PIEDMONT PINES-NEW LISTING.....\$335,000
Stunning, light-filled 4BR, 2BA Contemporary with versatile floor plan. Dramatic floor to ceiling windows and cathedral ceilings in living room. CAROL COHEN 339-8400

SWEEPING YOU OFF YOUR FEET.....\$329,000
Incredible views to S.F., Mt. Diablo, permeate this bright, sunny 2+BR home with open courtyard and garden. In need of paint and landscaping. HAL CASTLE 339-8400

ARMED & DANGEROUS! CROCKER TRADITIONAL.....\$290,000
3BR, 1.5 BA, living room with fireplace, formal dining room, hardwood floors, large deck, view of Lake Merritt & downtown, lg. bonus rm. CHARLENE CLAYBAUGH 339-8400 ext. 216

PROPERTY, PLACE & LOCATION.....\$284,500
Lots of property with privacy, trees and level-out, dramatic Contemporary design with vaulted ceilings and walls of glass and redwood. Close-in Montclair location, 3BR, 2BA. RACHEL BALLER 339-8400

FIRST TIME ON THE MARKET.....\$279,000
Pristine Sequoia Hills one owner home! Formal dining room, family room off of kitchen, 3 good size BR, 2.5 BA, and a lovely secluded yard. HAL MARCUS 339-9281

GLENVIEW TRADITIONAL FIXER.....\$279,000
Three story home in the same family for over a generation. In need of TLC—ready for you to make this 4-BR home w/ large rooms your home. KEVIN BLATTEL 339-8400

TRIPLEX NEAR LAKE MERRITT.....\$277,000
Two 2BR & 1 studio, steady tenants, 2 gar, 3 year old roof, common laundry, walk to lake & transportation. CHARLENE CLAYBAUGH 339-8400 ext. 216

ATTN: CONTRACTORS/INVESTORS.....\$275,000
Grand Lake area. Huge 3 story house, 14 rooms, corner lot zoned R-70. Now used as a rooming house. Annual gross income \$42,000 per year. KEN FERRELL 339-8400

WANT CHARM AND FUNCTION?.....\$269,000
Craftsman home with sunny disposition! Master BR w/ office overlooks level yard & garden. Family room & sauna, box beam ceilings, hwd flrs! PATRICIA BENNETT 482-9000

FOURPLEX NEAR PIEDMONT AVENUE.....\$259,000
Looking for terrific investment property? Wonderful fourplex, all 1BR, 1BA units. Hardwood floors, extra storage, 1 parking space per unit. Walking distance to Piedmont Avenue. NAHID NASSIRI 531-1670

AFFORDABLE MONTCLAIR.....\$259,000
What a fantastic deal! A 3BR home with formal dining room, large kitchen, hardwood floors, new carpet, freshly painted, etc. etc. EDITH MARCUS 339-9281

CROCKER HIGHLANDS SPECIAL.....\$254,000
Move-in condition, living room with fireplace, formal dining room, 3BR, 1BA up, 1BR, 1BA and rumpus room down. Attached garage with interior access, beautiful rose garden. CHARLENE CLAYBAUGH 339-8400 ext. 216

1926 CRAFTSMAN-A CLASS ACT.....\$225,000
Special 3BR, 1+BA split level San Leandro classic w. gorgeous gumwood trim & refinished hwd floors. Great area in which to live and enjoy life! EARL SHENK 287-9590

ENJOY STEADY INCOME.....\$221,000
From this one of a kind duplex with 2 comm. spacious, a 2BR, 1BA and 1BR, 1BA units, great upscale potential, low maint., a best-buy for investors. ARNOLD MUELLER 530-6099

UNBELIEVABLE BARGAIN.....\$219,000
Glenview cosmetic fixer, sunny 2BR home in need of TLC, kitchen with nook & level out to private yard, rumpus-office, + garage + shop. ARNOLD MUELLER 530-6099

SHOWCASE FOR GUMWOOD PANELING.....\$290,000
Grand Lake home has all its gorgeous wood features preserved in bookcases, hutch, wainscoting. Updated, spacious kitchen & bath. Light-filled, private setting. JIM SCHUBERT 436-6683

BEAUTIFUL CRAFTSMAN.....\$199,000
Spacious 2-story traditional with gleaming hardwood floors remodeled kitchen and bath. Expandable attic and level yard. Quiet street near Lake Merritt. LYN MURRAY 339-8400

STEP INTO A DIFFERENT WORLD!.....\$199,000
That best describes the feeling in this 4 bedroom mansion, 2,700+ square feet on extensive grounds on Oak High St. Very good condition too! JIM SCHUBERT 436-6683

NOT JUST A PRETTY FACE!.....\$175,000
Stylish Tudor style home with big LR, beamed ceiling, hwd flrs. and an enormous master. BR upstairs with lots of closet space. SEKI CHIKAMOTO 531-1670

CLASSIC DUPLEX.....\$165,000
Starter duplex in Adams Point, 2BR, 1BA and 1BR studio. Enjoy it yourself or rent it out. Very spacious private yard & storage. Call today for details. ARNOLD MUELLER 530-6099

IF YOU'RE JUST STARTING OUT.....\$149,000
This is a great place to end up! Maxwell Park 2BR, 1BA. Traditional in park-like setting featuring built-ins, hwd flrs, crown moldings, etc. SHERDELLA SIMS 339-8400

40-FT GLASS WALL, BALCONY/VIEW.....\$149,000
Urbane hi-rise 1500 square foot +- city home. Prestigious unit Lakeside community. Spacious 2BR, 2BA, much to offer. 24-hr security. Sensational views! Walk to BAFT! D.C. HODGES 339-8400

STARTER'S DREAM.....\$149,000
Reduced in Laurel, 3BR, 1BA, hardwood floors, updated kitchen, sunny rooms, flowering yard, attached garage, everything. MARTHA SHIN 339-8400

IT'S POETRY TIME!.....\$129,000
Roses are red,
Violets are blue,
This house needs a buyer—
Why not you?

For more information, give a call to: NICK LAVROV 339-8400

ITTY BITTY ALMOST PRETTY.....\$129,000
Cute bungalow on decent sized lot in Laurel area. Needs some TLC, but has 2BR, 1BA with lg. full bath, mstr. det. grg., and south facing yard. NICK LAVROV 339-8400

GREAT FIXER IN EXCELLENT LOCATION.....\$129,000
Huge price reduction. Needs major work. Tremendous potential on this 2BR home with detached garage close to Haight St. and the Mormon Temple. PHIL WEINGRAW 339-8400

AN UNYIELDING COMMITMENT.....\$119,000
To quality Mills College Mediterranean on oversized lot with confidence. Remodeled kit., FDR., bleached hardwood floors, lot, full basement. SHERDELLA SIMS 339-8400

Dunning...

Continued from page 14

order to plan their best approach, buyers sometimes wonder they can tell if there actually are offers. Unfortunately, you always know in advance. Why it is so important to have a competent, experienced professional you trust. The agent will be able to advise you how to proceed.

Like a house that is getting offers, you first must decide whether to compete. Before you clear that the property probably sell for more than the price. If you are not convinced it is worth more than list price, or if you do not qualify for a certain-asking amount, you can make a pass and not write a bid.

Decide to join the fray, your best shot. In multiple scenarios, buyers do not always have a second chance to in- their bid. Bear in mind, how- the offer chosen is not usually the highest. It is fre- the contract with the most buyer who is offering the and a price that is within

As an example, let's say the asking price is \$325,000. One offer is \$340,000 with ten percent down and a thirty day close of escrow; another is \$335,000 with twenty percent down, a forty-five day escrow and the option for the seller to lease back the home for thirty days after close of escrow.

If the seller needs time to move or find another property, the terms of the second offer might be more attractive. In addition, the second buyer's significantly higher down payment provides more security that he will be approved for the loan.

In this instance, the seller will probably either counter the price of the second offer (in which case the buyer could reject the counter and walk away), or simply accept the lower offer with the better terms. Make sure your agent asks why the seller is selling and what terms he needs before you write up your contract.

If you have written an offer without any competition and another offer surfaces at the last minute, the listing (seller's) agent should give you the opportunity to adjust your offer if you so choose.

If the listing agent has a contract from his own buyer, make sure he does not represent the seller as well and listen to offers from other

agents. This is a definite conflict of interest. Insist that the listing agent's office manager handle the multiple offer presentation in order to ensure fairness.

Final thoughts. It is not easy to be a buyer in a seller's market. Should you wait until the market cools down? What if that doesn't happen for three years and prices have risen 25 to 30 percent? That could turn out to be an expensive decision. On the other hand, if interest rates continue rising, this seller's market could become a memory.

If you do choose to be a player in this market, remember there are past trends and history to help guide you. Most of all, don't forget the three most important words in real estate: location, location, location.

My second article will review hot market tips for sellers. Call me for my previous, related articles: *The Changing Market; Understanding the Market; Buyers' Do's and Don'ts; Use Local Agent; Not Just Termites; and "As Is" Pointers.*

Don Dunning is a 17-year real estate veteran. He is a full-time Realtor and consultant with Wells & Bennett Realtors in Oakland. Call him at 531-7000, ext. 239 to put his knowledge and experience to work for you.

Art as dream and recovery



Rosalie Russell, left, and Diane Cassell showcase their work at Red Oak Gallery, 1891 Solano Ave. in Berkeley. Meet them both at an artists reception tomorrow from 6 to 8 p.m.

Paintings and drawings from two local artists, Rosalie Cassell and Diane Rusnak, are featured in Red Oak Gallery's show, "Visitations" through June 27 at Red Oak Realty, 1891 Solano Avenue in Berkeley.

Painting as recovery

To help cancer survivors regain a sense of loss of dignity and control that a diagnosis of cancer can bring, Rosalie Cassell

is currently teaching a series of art workshops at the Women's Cancer Resource Center, 3023 Shattuck in Berkeley.

"It is important to remember that just moving paint around the canvas can be movement enough," said Cassell. "It keeps the circulation flowing and clears the vision. Such is the gift of visual thinking; such is the gift of art."

A Berkeley resident since 1971, Cassell hails from Brooklyn, New

York, where she earned her B.A. degree in Art. In 1983 she completed a M.A. in Arts and Consciousness at John F. Kennedy University in Orinda. She has been exhibiting her artwork and teaching for over 25 years.

The dream work of art

Diane Rusnak has been a dream-based artist for over a decade. She presents an array of See GALLERY on page 18

The GRUBB Co.

REALTORS
Experience is essential.

PIEDMONT

Open Sunday 2 - 4:30 p.m.

MON CIRCLE NEW EXCLUSIVE \$699,000
This home w/gorgeous kit/family room & 3 sunny bdms
view & wonderful entertaining. SHEILA GALLAGHER

SALLE AVENUE \$569,000
It of living space. Family room w/fireplace, rumpus
baths. Storage galore. Level-in. KURT BUCHHOLZ

310 RAMONA AVENUE NEW EXCLUSIVE \$529,000
All level & very attractive traditional. Gorgeous dining, new
designer kitchen, private sunny patio and garden. ED KUO

1827 OAKLAND AVENUE NEW PRICE \$459,000
Centrally located for schools and transportation. Formal living
& dining rooms. 3/2+, play room & deck. ANGELA WEI GRUBB

OAKLAND

Open Sunday 2 - 4:30 p.m.

SALLE AVENUE NEW EXCLUSIVE
West Side of Montclair. 3/2 home w/floor to ceiling windows,
patio & new roof. Den, patio & garden. E. DICKSON

HUBERT ROAD NEW EXCLUSIVE \$539,000
This Country English. 4/3. Sep. studio, temp. controlled
bath. Surrounded by gorgeous gardens. JAMES GARCIA

WILKSPUR ROAD \$499,000
This architecture. Crocker Highlands home w/5 bedrooms
extras. Gracious & elegant throughout. K. COOPER

CHABOT COURT NEW EXCLUSIVE \$425,000
Must see! 2 homes plus a cottage in
an enchanted garden. Perfect for
investor or homeowner seeking live/
work, extended family or income
opportunity. Walk to BART. JUDY CAIN

VIEWCREST COURT \$419,000
This home located at end of a cul-de-sac, features a
large yard, family room & rec room. 4/3. KURT MEYER

421 & 387 CAPRICORN \$319,000
Charming 3 bedroom home w/spacious living room & large eat-
in kit. Sep. 1/1 cottage w/fireplace & deck. JUDY RANKANKAN

461 FLORENCE AVENUE NEW PRICE \$314,000
Adorable 2 bdrm traditional w/a verandah off the kitchen & a
new bath. Garden & partial bay view. BETTINA BALESTRIERI

4295 SEQUOYAH FIRST OPEN! \$312,000
Park setting on approx. 1/2
acre. View of Sequoyah Golf
Course. Lovely home w/4
bedrooms/3 full baths. Move-in
condition. JUDY RANKANKAN

4194 OPAL STREET NEW EXCLUSIVE \$299,000
Adorable Temescal bungalow w/garden. Remodeled kitchen
& bath. Many upgrades. 2 bedrooms/1 bath/plus room. S. PAUL

6355 GIRVIN DRIVE NEW EXCLUSIVE \$295,000
Tom Lowe Contemporary w/2 spacious bdms & a den/office.
Gorgeous family room opens to new deck. ANIAN TUNNEY

BERKELEY

Open Sunday 2 - 4:30 p.m.

MILLER AVENUE \$895,000
Spectacular views of San Francisco and the bay. Four bedrooms/three and one-half baths with beautifully finished interiors
living room, formal dining and gourmet kitchen/family room. Live in a work of art! JEANETTE ROACH

PIEDMONT

By Appointment

GRACIOUS RESIDENCE \$2,350,000
This gracious home offers elegant formal living. Comfortable
gourmet kit, 5 bdms & beautiful grounds. J. ROACH

GRAND MEDITERRANEAN \$1,995,000
Perfection & warmth. Wonderful floor plan w/ family
room, 4 bedrooms incl. au-pair quarters. ANIAN TUNNEY

DISCOURT AND VIEW \$1,495,000
View & tennis court. The exquisite garden is a must
see. Gorgeous home on approx. 3/4 acre. MARION SCHWARTZ

GRANT & MODERN \$1,365,000
Recently renovated w/a new gourmet kit, a sophisticated
new landscaping. Wonderful outdoor living. J. ROACH

3-STORY TRADITIONAL \$989,500
Walk to school and the center of town. Elegant formal rooms,
landscaped grounds. 4 bedrooms up. DONALD GRUBB JR

PIEDMONT GRAND DAME \$689,000
Gracious light-filled formal
rooms and lush landscaped
private, park-like grounds on 1/2
acre. 6++ bedrooms/4 1/2 baths
Great location. CONNIE ROGERS

CENTRALLY LOCATED \$439,000
A charming Mediterranean. Lrg. entry hall, formal dining room
& 3 spacious bedrooms. Covered patio & deck. MINDY SCOTT

OAKLAND/BERKELEY

By Appointment

WILF MANOR HOME \$885,000
This home w/library, country kitchen, 6++ bdms & 4+
baths. Rich paneling & exceptional details. SANDRA VOGL

MONT PINES NEW EXCLUSIVE \$789,000
Authentic architectural details,
view, privacy, gardens & patio
Old world living room w/hand
hewn beams. 3 bds/2 1/2 baths
incl. 2 sep. lots. DEBRA DYDEN

BERCKRIDGE NEW EXCLUSIVE \$619,000
This craftsman w/serene canyon views. Terraced garden
w/ pool area. 5/3.5. Completion in 4 weeks. J. KARNAY

MONTCLAIR TRADITIONAL NEW EXCLUSIVE \$509,000
This traditional w/comfortable floor plan. 4/2.5. Family room
w/ level garden. Completion in 4 weeks. J. KARNAY

MONT PINES CONTEMPORARY \$469,000
This 4/3.5 home on 3 levels. Decks, view, rumpus room,
& family room off the library. 8 years old! MELITTABEESON

GRACIOUS BUILT-IN POOL & SPA \$409,000
This home w/open floor plan. Family room, eat-in kitchen,
master and landscaped grounds. SHERRY BENNINGER

BERCKRIDGE TRADITIONAL NEW EXCLUSIVE \$399,000
This traditional in move-in condition. Rustic beamed
ceiling, fireplace & level garden. 3/2.5. JOHN KARNAY

DRAMATIC BAY VIEWS \$359,000
Oakmore home w/bay views & beautiful grounds. Family
room, level play area, deck & fruit trees. 3/2.5. S. BENNINGER

PRIME ROCKRIDGE LOCATION \$355,000
Four bedroom, two bath home or can be used as 2 two-
bedroom units. Walk to College Avenue & BART. ED KUO

DELIGHTFUL DUTCH COLONIAL \$344,000
Immaculate Crocker Highlands traditional w/formal living/
dining room & updated kit. 4 bdms & rumpus. L. MCCLAIN

RIDGEMONT LOT NEW PRICE! \$329,000
Exquisite panoramic view lot located at end of cul-de-sac
Utilities in sidewalk. Level building site. SHERRY BENNINGER

UNIQUE MONTCLAIR HOME \$259,000
Hexagon redwood home on 1/2 acre w/panoramic views. 2
bdms/2 baths + a loft or family room. Unique. KURT BUCHHOLZ

TRESTLE GLEN NEW EXCLUSIVE \$234,900
Cute English cottage w/3++
bedrooms/2 baths, updated
kitchen and peaceful canyon
views. Terraced garden. Crocker
School District JOHN KARNAY

CHARMING BUNGALOW \$188,000
2 bdrm/1 bath home. Sep. formal dining room & kitchen w/
breakfast room that looks out to garden. BETTINA BALESTRIERI

DANVILLE

By Appointment

BEAUTIFUL VIEWS OF MOUNT DIABLO \$995,000
This way Hacienda designed by Clarence Tantau & Thomas Church in 1937. Restored in 1991, this gracious home includes
gourmet kitchen with breakfast room, elegant entertaining areas, brick courtyard, verandah and a guest house with one
broom and a studio. Situated on 1.67 acres with beautiful views of Mt. Diablo. NANCY ROTHMAN

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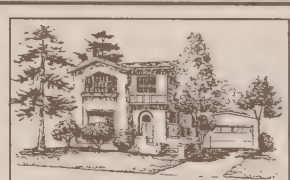
OAKLAND/PIEDMONT

SECLUDED TUDOR WITH VIEW \$2,100,000
Architectural details blend w/ the understated elegance
of this stately home. 5++BR, 5+BA + au pair ste., 2 libra-
ries. And 3 car grg. ROSE JELLISON 428-0900, 644-5401

BEST VIEWS IN BAY AREA! \$699,000
Sweeping views & exceptional quality define this
elegant 4BR, 3.5BA home built in '93 & better than new!
Gourmet kit./FR. CAROLE BERGER 428-0900, 845-0211

WOW VIEW! TRADITIONAL CHARM \$569,000
Courtyard entry, open & light, lovely hardwoods.
Fabulous view from eat-in kitchen, all 3 bedrooms,
living & dining rooms. Small fam rm/study + bonus
room, excellent condition. LOIS HEYDEN 428-0900

WHY NOT SPREAD OUT? \$495,000
Over 2900 sq. ft. beauty in Piedmont Pines offers room
for everyone & everything. Fabulous master, views,
small yard, too. CATHY MOULTON 428-0900, 644-5480



JUST LISTED IN PIEDMONT! \$482,000
Lovely architectural details for this traditional 1924
3++BR, 2.5BA home on a tree-lined street. Eat-in
kitchen, garden, 2 car detached garage, walk to
schools. MARTINE ERICKSON 428-0900

OAKLAND/PIEDMONT

ABSOLUTELY CHARMING CRAFTSMAN \$149,000
Bungalow in North Oakland! 2BR, hardwood floors,
stone fireplace! Gumwood built-ins in living room and
dining room! Huge sunny kitchen! Lovely garden! Full
basement! LORRI ARAZI 849-3711, 287-8858

VICTORIAN COTTAGE \$137,000
458 38th Street. Stained glass windows, basement, very
charming, a must see! Open Sunday 4/20, 2-4 p.m.
TIM BERRA 845-0200

A BEAUTIFUL SUNNY CONDO! \$135,000
Lovely spacious 2 story 2BR, 2BA in a serene, sunny and
wooded setting. \$2,700 down, \$993/month. 814-2204
(24 hrs.) CARR 845-0200

MODERN TOWNHOUSE \$108,000
Cute 2BR, 1.5 BA well designed unit. 2 decks. Great
financing. B. HOPPER 845-0200

SHARP CONDO! \$89,000
Attractive condo. Newly painted 1BR, 1BA close to
transportation & shops. Secure parking space. Well-
maintained building. SARA 845-0211, 849-5305

WALK TO ROCKRIDGE BART!
Triplex 443 McAuley & 5917/19 Howell, good income
property. SUZANNE LINFORD 273-9716

BERKELEY/ALBANY

STATELY VICTORIAN \$289,000
This beautiful 5BR home has a large fenced yard and
lots of charm. NICK LYNCH 845-0200, 286-7653

TURN-OF-THE-CENTURY VICTORIAN \$125,000
Formal dining room, bay windows, bonus room,
enclosed back porch, workshop, 2 car garage, fruit trees.
NORINE SHIMA 845-0200, 273-9387

WEST COUNTY

THE BOSS OF THE BAY \$369,000
Pure luxury awaits the new owners of this spectacular
customized home in the Richmond Hills. 3BR, 2.5 BA
w/ family room. Open house Sunday (4/20), 12-5 p.m.
CLARA 527-9800, 287-5833

SPACIOUS WITH EXTRAS! \$263,000
Great El Cerrito location! Formal dining room, large
backyard; full basement; 4BR, 2 full baths; lovely sun-
porch and decks. Priced to sell! Call Alfred 869-2301
ALFRED MARTIN 527-9800

LIGHT, BRIGHT STARTER \$235,000
2BR, 1BA hwd floors, formal dining, closets! Come see!
CATHIE KOSEL 526-5143, 644-5244

LOT FOR SALE

NOT JUST A LOT- \$60,000
An exciting project. Approved plans!
MAVIS DELACROIX, 845-0211, 658-6332

ALBANY (510) 524-2326	BERKELEY (510) 845-0200	BERKELEY NORTH (510) 849-3711	CLAREMONT (510) 845-0211	EL CERRITO (510) 527-9800
GRAND LAKE (510) 834-2010	KENSINGTON (510) 526-5143	MONTCLAIR (510) 339-9290	PIEDMONT (510) 428-0900	RELO 279-0565

Find Us on the Internet at: <http://www.mn4re.com>

Secret...

Continued from page 18

Day School will offer a special event for those individuals with an above-average interest in horticulture and unusual landscaping.

The Limited Edition tour will provide a rare opportunity to obtain an in-depth view of four special gardens, to talk with garden owners and designers. One of the four gardens - the acre property and private garden of nationally recognized designer Bob Clark, is not included on the regular Sunday tour.

Another exclusive feature of the Limited Edition tour will be a discussion of the history of Oakland presented by San Francisco Chronicle columnist Jon Thornhill. The historic estate of spice merchant Adolph Schilling, located on the shores of Oakland's Lake Merritt, will provide the setting for Thornhill's talk. Continental

breakfast will be served on the estate, which is a splendid example of a 19th century English garden. In

On Saturday, April 26, the day before the regular tour, Park Day School will offer a special gardening event—the Limited Edition Tour.

recent years the estate has been home to the Bechtel Family, who engaged the services of Bob Clark to fulfill the garden's potential.

The Limited Edition tour will also include two of the more unusual gardens from the regular Sunday tour: the homes of the proprietors of Potomac Waterworks and Enchanted Plantings. Potomac

Waterworks enjoys a reputation as one of the state's premier design-build landscape firms specializing in water systems. On a modest lot, the owners of Potomac Waterworks have built a delightful garden featuring a koi "green" pond and a cunning selection of variegated greenery. Enchanted Plantings is known for its ability to hybridize and germinate unusual plants; the personal garden of the company's owners reflects this passion and talent. Both owners will be on hand to discuss their work in detail.

No more than sixty spaces will be available for the Limited Edition tour. The event will start at 9 a.m. on Saturday, April 26. Tickets are \$100 per person and includes continental breakfast and transportation between sites. Several vehicles will be provided so that viewings and discussion may take place in small, staggered groups.

For ticket reservations and further information, please call the Garden Tour Hotline at Park Day School, 653-6250.

Come explore unique kitchens



Built in 1903 for the daughter of the famous San Francisco Ghirardelli chocolate family, this is one of five houses that will be featured in this year's Heart of the Home Kitchen and Home Tour.

Tickets are now on sale for the Ninth Annual Heart of the Home Kitchen and Home Tour taking place on Fri. and Sat., April 25 and 26 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Sponsored by Children's Support League of the East Bay, the self-guided tour of five outstanding Piedmont homes showcases distinctively remodeled kitchens. Patrons will be able to meet with some of the designers and architects of these kitchens and view most of the first floor

of each house as well as beautiful gardens.

There will also be other activities at the Piedmont Community Center. A pre-purchased box lunch will be prepared by Sue Remick of Someone's in the Kitchen. The popular CSL Boutique is open to the public and will feature many unique, hand-crafted items perfect for Mother's Day, Father's Day, graduation and teacher's gifts. Several vendors are returning from last year's boutique as well as some new and very talented artisans.

A raffle drawing will be held April 27 with over 200 prizes available. Grand prizes include hotel stays at the Mauna Lani Bay Hotel & Bungalows on the island of Hawaii, Pointe Hilton Resort at Squaw Peak in Phoenix, Luxor Hotel & Casino in Las Vegas, and Rosarito Beach Hotel and Spa in Baja.

Since 1988 Children's Support League has donated \$300,000 to local children's charities including Ann Martin. See KITCHEN on page 21



Nahid Nassiri
87-5770 voice mail

Better Homes Realty 339-4000 118 Sonia Street



Asking price for this fine home is \$369,500

NEW LISTING - ROCKRIDGE TRADITIONAL
Wonderful family home. 4BR/3BA. Lovely living room with high coffered ceilings, fireplace, arched doorways, formal dining room, delightful newer kitchen with deck, family room, gorgeous backyard, hardwood floors.



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Mason-McDuffie Real Estate, Inc.
10240 San Pablo Avenue
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Vena Flint: Graduate, Realtors Institute. Years of experience serving the needs of home buyers and sellers.

Dean Flint: Graduate, UC Berkeley law school. Former litigation defense attorney. Licensed real estate broker.

Don't go it alone! Pick up the phone! Call Vena & Dean, at (510) 233-6663. Mention this ad for a Free 50-minute consultation. Or, if you prefer, just ask for your Free Home Buyer's Handbook, or Home Seller's Handbook.

TEMPLETON

BERKELEY • OAKLAND • ALBANY • PIEDMONT • KENSINGTON • EL CERRITO

BERKELEY

THOUSAND OAKS TUDOR! John Hudson Thomas masterpiece in prestigious neighborhood! 7BR, 5.5BA, family room, 1/3 acre lot, extensive updating and seismic retrofitting. Bebe McRae ext. 145.....\$1,300,000

NORTH BERKELEY LANDMARK IN TAMALPAIS RD. NEIGHBORHOOD, Open Sun. 2-5, 2645 Shasta Rd. New listing! Elegant craftsman, private nature preserve, over 2000 sq. ft. lot. Filtered views. 5+BR, 3.5BA, library, au pair suite. Susie Schevill ext. 144.....\$825,000

30 OAK RIDGE ROAD, Open Sunday 2-4. NEW LISTING! CLAREMONT CUL-DE-SAC & SF VIEW! Mediterranean treasure with a walled courtyard entry, decks, garden, and family room. 4BR, 3BA, study. Paul Templeton ext. 131.....\$775,000

ELEGANT FREDERICK CENTER DESIGN! 4/3, light & extremely private. Walk to court with loggia for interior-outdoor living. Tricia Swift ext. 140.....\$635,000

TUDOR LANDMARK IN CLAREMONT. Extraordinary opportunity in our finest loc. P. Templeton ext. 131.....\$575,000 "AS IS"

HANDSOME NORTHSIDE MEDITERRANEAN. Elegant design, fine details, lovely bay, bridge & rooftop views. 3BR, 1.5BA, terrific neighborhood. Gini Erck ext. 133.....\$345,000

Open Sunday 2-5, 2929 LINDEN AVENUE. NEW LISTING! Elmwood classic 3BR, 2 enclosed porches, 1.5BA, fenced yard. Bebe McRae ext. 145.....\$295,000

2307-09 PRINCE ST. • HALCYON CT., Open Sunday 2-4. Sunny, very large 2 bedroom, owner's residence with 3 rentals. Jack McPhail ext. 135.....\$290,000

Open Sunday 2-4:30, 2143 EUNICE STREET. Rare opportunity for charming North Berkeley brown shingle cottage w/bay views! Walk to Peet's coffee! 2BR, sun porch, hwd floors, frpl! Bebe McRae ext. 145.....\$269,000

BERKELEY'S BEST DUPLEX. Two beautiful residences. 2/2 & 1/1. Excellent cond. Jack McPhail ext. 135.....\$249,500

1056 EUCLID AVENUE, Open Sunday 2-4. New price for this sunny 2BR, 1BA bungalow! Bring offers! Leslie Avant ext. 122.....\$231,000

HOME PLUS STUDIO! Bright, friendly 2+BR with great space for art, office or income. Gini Erck ext. 133.....\$209,000

CIRCA 1908. Two-story home on 10th Street. Call to see. Leslie Easterday ext. 134.....\$149,000

ABOVE COLLEGE! Darling 1BR condo in heart of Elmwood. Leslie Easterday ext. 134.....\$128,000

OAKLAND

Open Sunday 2-4, 21 BOWLING DRIVE. Claremont Tudor designed by Ratcliff. Truly grand: 5BR, 4.5BA, library, views, pool. Bebe McRae ext. 145.....\$1,025,000

ARTIST'S DREAM. Creative renovation of a Victorian plus a new separate studio. Ron Egberman ext. 127.....\$275,000

ROSE GARDEN WALK. Upscale living at great price! New condo. Only 1 left! Ron ext. 127.....\$210,000

ROCKRIDGE BUNGALOW. New price! Classic Rockridge 3/1+ bungalow. Thicia Swift ext. 140.....\$199,000

PIEDMONT

STATELY 1915 CLASSIC with grand proportions! Exquisite woodwork and unusual detail! 3BR, family room, 2 full and 2 half baths, sunny patio & fenced yard! Bebe McRae ext. 145.....\$1,075,000

WALNUT CREEK

195 PLEASANT VALLEY DRIVE. Open Sun. 2-4. Big level lot, great light, conv. location. Leshe Avant ext. 122.....\$335,000

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PACIFIC UNION RESIDENTIAL BROKERAGE

HOMES OPEN SUNDAY 2:00-4:30

OAKLAND / PIEDMONT / BERKELEY

44 FARRAGUT AVENUE, PIEDMONT - 7+BD/5+BA.....\$1,950,000
Beautifully restored, grand formal rms, 1/2 acre, bay views. Georgia Cornell

13331 CAMPUS DRIVE, RIDGEMONT - 5BD/4+BA.....\$1,450,000
Dramatic custom home, sweeping SF/bridge views, huge party rm. Robyn Mohr

255 MOUNTAIN AVE., PIEDMONT - 4BD/3BA.....\$1,200,000
New listing! Stately home, remodeled kitchen/fam rm & mst ste. Debi Fitzgerald

36 CREST ROAD, PIEDMONT - 3+BD/3+BA.....\$875,000
Gracious level-in family home, peaceful setting, lovely condition. Patricia Scott

943 AQUARIUS WAY, MONTCLAIR - 4+BD/3+BA.....\$849,000
New listing! Brand new sophisticated Spanish on 1/4 acre. Vicki Woodhead

2820 BURTON DRIVE, MONTCLAIR - 5BD/4BA.....\$729,000
North bay & canyon views, gorgeous level yard, 3-car garage. Teri Carlisle

3922 HARRISON ST., PIEDMONT AVE - 6BD/2+BA.....\$525,000
Turn of the century mansion, library, full basement & attic. Francis Heath

518 SCENIC AVENUE, PIEDMONT - 3+BD/2+BA.....\$499,000
Privacy, charm, SF bay views, stunning new kitchen, yard. Martha Holstlaw

223 DUNCAN WAY, MONTCLAIR - 2BD/1.5BA + 1BD/1BA.....\$395,000
Charming secluded English Tudor + separate cottage & gardens. Kathy Flynn

1690 TRESTLE GLEN, CROCKER HIGHLANDS - 3+BD/1+BA.....\$359,000
New listing! Impeccable 2-story home, beautiful updated kitchen. Joan Hause

1027 CLARENDON CRESCENT, CROCKER - 3BD/1+BA.....\$329,000
Great street! Upgraded, ultimate kitchen, new bath, level yard. Donna Costella

5704 MORAGA AVENUE, MONTCLAIR - 3BD/2BA.....\$329,000
New listing! Private setting, landscaped back yard and lawn. Chuck Corwin

1305-B HENRY STREET, BERKELEY - 2BD/2+BA.....\$319,500
Last of 4 beautiful new townhomes, top quality. 2 mst suites. Joanna Gould

2033 MANZANITA, MONTCLAIR - 3+BD/2BA.....\$299,500
All level living, wonderful street, formal dining, huge family room. Dick Cohen

152 GLENWOOD GLADE, MONTCLAIR - 2BD/1+BA.....\$299,000
Cheerful, well built cottage, private setting, 2 frpls, level yard. Nancy Chew

4101 39TH AVENUE, REDWOOD HTS - 3BD/3BA.....\$298,000
Beautifully remodeled, large master with bay view, gardens. Diane E. McCan

4239 GREGORY STREET, REDWOOD HTS - 3BD/2BA.....\$284,500
New listing! Kit/family rm combo, beau landscaped yard w/deck. Teri Carlisle

6376 THORNHILL DR., MONTCLAIR - 2BD/2BA.....\$279,000
New listing! Unique "pole" house in private wooded retreat. Vicki Woodhead

4093 WATERHOUSE ROAD, OAKMORE - 2BD/1BA.....\$269,000
New listing! Charming English, separate office/au pair & bath. S. Klemmer

4230 DETROIT AVE., REDWOOD HTS - 3BD/1+BA.....\$259,500
New listing! Beautiful Tudor, remodeled kitchen, great details. Diane E. McCan

3940 SEQUOYAH ROAD, SEQUOYAH HILLS - 3+BD/1+BA.....\$249,000
New listing! Pool & hot tub! Hwd floors, formal DR, 2-car gar. Lee Jacobson

4442 CLAREWOOD DRIVE, ROCKRIDGE - 2BD/2+BA.....\$239,000
Lovely sunny townhouse, private patio & decks, best location. K. Callahan

4458 ELINORA AVE., REDWOOD HEIGHTS - 3BD/1BA.....\$232,500
Lovely home, remodeled kit, new roof, back yard & garden. Diane E. McCan

5630 MORAGA AVENUE, MONTCLAIR - 2BD/1BA.....\$232,500
Charming Normandy cottage nestled in trees, 2 sunny patios. Bonnie Hirsch

7553 VALENTINE STREET, OAKLAND - 2BD/1BA.....\$139,500
Spacious eat-in kit, hwd frs, white picket fence, nice yard. Lee Jacobson

BY APPOINTMENT

OAKLAND / PIEDMONT

GRACIOUS TRADITIONAL - PIEDMONT.....\$1,750,000
Architect designed with French touches. Perfect for entertaining with lovely private gardens and pool. 6BD/4+BA. Sally Morrison

NEW PRICE - PIEDMONT.....\$939,000
Elegant & sophisticated! Panoramic bay views, top quality reconstruction, 3BD/3BA, decks, 2 frpls, den. Dee Dee Bonham

POPULAR AREA - PIEDMONT.....\$525,000
Attractive 3BD/2BA level-in home. Family room opens to a private deck, formal dining, 2-car attached garage. Sally Morrison

CROCKER HIGHLANDS COLONIAL.....\$649,500
This sunny home features 3BD/3BA, spacious formal rooms, paneled library with frpl, French doors, garden. Roselle Woods

SF BAY VIEW - MONTCLAIR.....\$619,000
Spacious contemporary. 4BD/3BA, new marble master bath, formal DR, fabulous kit, flagstone patio, level gardens. Roselle Woods

ENGLISH COUNTRY ESTATE.....\$499,000
4BD/3+BA, bay views, rec room with built-in TV/stereo, separate office, hwd floors, possible au pair, level yard. Chuck Corwin

NEW CONTEMPORARY CONSTRUCTION.....\$489,000
Wonderful view! Open floor plan, over 2,700 sq. ft. of living space. 3BD/3+BA, large family room or 4th bedroom. Dick Cohen

UPPER ROCKRIDGE MEDITERRANEAN.....\$479,000
Custom home w/fabulous bay views & terraces. 4BD/3BA, wonderful light throughout, hwd frs, au pair w/sep entry. Dee Knowland

RIDGEMONT FAMILY HOME.....\$415,000
Situated on a quiet cul-de-sac with wonderful outdoor living on large level lot. 4BD/3BA, family room, 3-car garage. Robyn Mohr

PRIVATE SETTING - MONTCLAIR.....\$409,000
Dramatic architecture, 3BD/2+BA, atrium play room off family room, LR with library, box beams, tiled patio deck. Chuck Corwin

ENCHANTING - PIEDMONT PINES.....\$399,000
Pride of ownership is reflected in this wonderful English style home. 4BD/1+BA, formal DR, private park-like grounds. Kathy Flynn

MONTCLAIR CUL-DE-SAC.....\$389,000
4BD/3BA home with 2 mst suites, fam rm off kit opens to tile patio & landscaped garden, 3-car attached gar. Debi Fitzgerald

WALK TO MONTCLAIR VILLAGE.....\$349,000
Piedmont side! A charming home nestled in the pines, 3BD/2+BA, bonus room, formal DR, hwd floors. Helen Danahat: 547-5750

MONTCLAIR TRADITIONAL.....\$339,000
Spacious 3BD/2+BA home with remodeled eat-in kit, hwd floors, French doors to deck, rampus, plus rm, 2-car gar. Donna DeBardi

PIEDMONT SIDE OF MONTCLAIR.....\$315,000
Beautifully maintained home with flexible floor plan. 2+BD/2BA, fam rm, home office, sun room, terraced gardens. Wendy Gardner

STUNNING CITY/BAY VIEWS.....\$299,000
3BD/2+BA, large eat-in kitchen, formal DR, fireplace, gleaming hardwood floors, private patio, oversized garage. Donna DeBardi

GRAND VICTORIAN DUPLEX.....\$299,000
Original details, high ceilings, newer kit & baths. 2BD/1BA and 3BD/2BA, upgraded systems, walk to Piedmont Ave. Joan Dark

LINCOLN HEIGHTS.....\$260,000
Light-filled rooms, sun drenched deck. 3BD/1+BA, updated kit, oak floors, bonus rm, shady patio & garden. Kathleen Callahan

UPPER LAUREL TRADITIONAL.....\$239,500
This 3BD/2BA home is warm & inviting w/lots of light and bay view. Remodeled kit, formal DR, hwd frs, great yard. Vicki Woodhead

SAN FRANCISCO VIEW.....\$217,500
Sophisticated, upgraded townhouse. 3BD/2+BA including master suite, lovely garden with flagstone patio. Robyn Mohr

RIDGEMONT TOWNHOME.....\$154,500
One of only two townhomes in this complex. 2BD/2+BA, in-unit laundry, frpl, 2 parking spaces, pool & spa. Dick Cohen

PIEDMONT AVENUE AREA.....\$84,500
Walk to Piedmont Ave! 1BD/1BA condo on quiet street. New carpet, fresh paint, partial bay view, assigned parking. Roselle Woods

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Events

The Events Calendar does not accept for-profit listings. Announcements for these events can be made in our classified section by calling 339-8777. Listings are made on a space available basis.

PHD Design Group invites you to an innovative series of Redecorating Workshops continuing through Fri., April 25. Geared toward the cost-conscious do-it-yourselfer, these workshops will cover topics ranging from buying and decorating with antiques to using existing furniture to create a new look. The workshops will be held at 5 Captain Dr. in Emeryville. Call Phyllis Johnson at 763-3488 for more information.

The Golden Gate Chapter of the American Society of Home Inspectors (ASHI) hosts its monthly meeting 7 p.m., Thurs., April 17 at Hs Lordship's Restaurant at the Berkeley Marina. Home inspectors who belong to ASHI of those interested in joining and meeting other professionals are invited to attend. Along with a regular chapter business meeting, Douglas Hansen, a member of the ASHI and the California Real Estate Inspection Association, will discuss the similarities and differences between the standards of these two organizations.

The \$35 cost includes dinner. Call Dermot O'Kelly at 549-9335 for more information.

Cal Fed presents a series of free Brown Bag Lunch Time Home Buyer Seminars. The seminars are held the third Fri. of each month. The next seminar "Seven Strategies" is scheduled for 12:10 p.m., Fri., April 18 at Cal Fed, 1325 Broadway in Oakland. Presented by the dynamic Nate Brooks of RE/MAX in Motion, these seminars will teach you the exact steps you'll need to protect yourself when buying a home. Call Gary Robinson at 530-4789 or Ivory Hart at 834-3392 for more information.

The Oakland Association of Realtors (OAR) presents Alex Creel, vice president of government affairs and the California Association of Realtors chief lobbyist who will speak on Affiliated Business Reform, 9 a.m., Fri., April 18 at the OAR, 1528 Webster Street in Oakland. Creel will discuss four bills currently before the assembly. These bills affect the way title companies and real estate brokers will do business in the future. Call 836-3000 for more information.

The Building Education Center (BEC) is the place to start your

dream home or to start turning your home into a dream. On Sat., April 19 BEC presents Owner Contracting and Project Management and Doug Carver's Controlling Terminals and Dry-rot. On Sun, April 20 Doug Kibbey will host Healthful Building Materials. Jennifer Almstead will teach you Ceramic Tile Installation on Sat and Sun, April 19 and 20. On Mon., April 21, the two-part workshop Solving Residential Drainage Problems will be presented by drainage/landscape contractor Christopher Smith. This workshop will conclude Mon. April 28. Call BEC at 525-7610 for more information.

The Sydney B. Mitchell Iris Society presents the Annual Iris Flower Show, 12:30 to 5 p.m., Sat., April 19 and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sun. April 20. Sanctioned by the American Iris Society, the show will feature all iris types in bloom including many of the beardless varieties

such as the Pacific Coast Hybrids, Siberians, Spurias, Japanese, and Loisanians. The show will take place at the Garden Center Building, 666 Lakeside Park, Oakland. The show is free. There is a \$2 parking fee. Call 482-5252 for more information.

Truitt & White Lumber Co. presents a free seminar: What You Need to Know Before You Remodel, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m., Sat., April 19 at 642 Hearst Ave. in Berkeley. Paul Winans of Winans Construction will teach you how to maximize the value and rewards of your project, while minimizing unnecessary cost and frustration. Reservations are required. Call 649-2674.

Karen Ward of CMG Mortgage invites you to Real Estate Financing 101, 10 a.m. to noon, Sat., April 19 at CMG Mortgage, 1225 Solano Ave. in Albany. Become an edu-

cated real estate consumer. Learn how to minimize closing costs; see the difference between a loan with and without mortgage insurance; get acquainted with lender guidelines, the income you need to qualify for a loan, low-down payment and no-down payments options and community assistance programs. Call 718-2134 or contact Karen Ward at www.reloan.com for more information.

The Northern California chapter of the nonprofit American Bamboo Society hosts the free Bamboo Festival, Sale and Rare Bamboo Auction, Sat. April 19 at the San Francisco County Fair Bldg., 9th Ave. and Lincoln Way in San Francisco's Golden Gate Park. The sale begins at noon, an introduction to bamboo in the garden will be held at 1 p.m. and the auction starts at 1:30 p.m. This annual event features clumping and running bamboo from Central and South America, the Himalayas, Southeast and East Asia.

ate the architecture of Thomas, William Maybeck, Walter Seilberg, Craftsman-style bungalows, cottages and are \$26 for nonmembers for members. Call for more information.

The Hillside Montclair will host a tour including plans and pests and diseases brown-bag lunch 11:30 April 22 to the Joaquin Community Center, 3594 in Oakland. Coffee and provided. There will be a sale. Call 531-6329 for information.

The Children's Story presents the Heart of Tour, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. 25 and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. 26. Tour five outstanding homes and shop the gift the Piedmont County Box lunches will be raffie promises prizes. Advanced tickets

See EVENTS

Blumberg...

Continued from page 16

price my own home. I will surely be asking other agents to help me keep perspective.

A good general rule is to set the asking price at no more than 5 percent above anticipated market value. An asking price that is too high will discourage offers, result in a longer marketing period and ultimately a lower sale price.

On average, homes in this area sell for about 95 percent of their last asking price. Keep in mind this is only an average: some homes sell for more, some for less.

As a final check, try to imagine you are the buyer. Would you pay more for a house than other similar homes? And wouldn't you be more

inclined to make an offer in the first place if you felt the seller was asking a fair and reasonable price?

Even in this seller's market of frantic buyers, multiple offers and quick sales, some homes remain on the market.

Although this is one of the best selling markets in a long time, smart pricing is still essential.

Keeping a realistic attitude — and having a skilled agent — will go a long way to ease the stress and clear the confusion.

Bob Blumberg is in the midst of his 23rd year of listing and selling local real estate. He is co-owner and cofounder of Red Oak Realty, Top of Solano, Berkeley. Got a question or comment? Look for your answer in this column. 527-3387 (x132), or blumberg@holonet.net/

Prelims...

Continued from page 16

trust recorded against the property or a lien recorded against the buyer or seller for an unpaid court award or unpaid taxes.

These recorded matters are listed numerically as "exceptions" in the preliminary report. They will remain exceptions from title insurance coverage unless eliminated or released prior to the transfer of title.

Q. What should I look for when I read my preliminary title report?

A. You will be interested, primarily, in the extent of your ownership rights. This means you will want to review the ownership interest in the property you will be buying as well as any claims, restrictions or interests of other people involving the property.

The report will note in a statement of vesting the degree, quan-

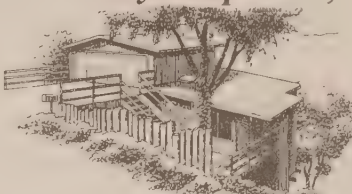
tity, nature and extent of the owner's interest in the real property. The most common form of interest is "fee simple" or "fee" which is the highest type of interest an owner can have in land.

Liens, restrictions and interests of others which are being excluded from coverage will be listed numerically as "exceptions" in the preliminary report. These may be claims by creditors who have liens or liens for payment of taxes or assessments.

There may also be recorded restrictions which have been placed in a prior deed or contained in what are termed CC&R's—covenants, conditions and restrictions.

Finally, interests of third parties are not uncommon and may include easements given by a prior owner which limit your use of the property. When you buy property you may not wish to have these claims or restrictions on your property. Instead, you may want to clear the unwanted items prior to purchase.

Open Sunday -- April 20, 1997



6355 Girvin Drive, Oakland

A Tom Lowe Contemporary, circa 1973, with spectacular canyon vistas and ultimate privacy. The home offers a dramatic living room with high ceilings and access to a sunny deck, an updated kitchen, solid maple floors in the family room, two spacious bedrooms and an office/den. Offered for \$295,000

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Montclair



7130 HOMEWOOD DRIVE
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\$275,000

Rockridge



5261 BOYD AVENUE
Remodeled 3BR/2BA
\$279,000

Contact Judy Farrell for details on these excellent values in prime locations.

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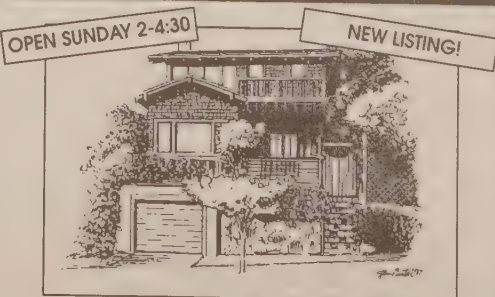
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- Private patio
- One full bath
- View balcony
- One car garage

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PACIFIC UNION

REALTY by TOM HOLSTLAW

A39
AT23

Crazy George thought he owned every house in town... I would've called the looney-bin a month ago, but I needed the listings.

RIGHT PROPERTY • RIGHT PRICE • RIGHT HERE

FEATURED ALAMEDA INVESTMENTS

- *NEW LISTING - 2943 GIBBONS, Fernside Dist. 3 BD, 2 BA, family rm. \$389,000
- *1311 WEBSTER #E109, 1 BD overlooking park. \$89,500
- *1723 BAY, Victorian cottage 2 BD, 1 BA. \$169,000 PENDING
- *985 POST, One-level 3 BD, 1 BA, move-in condition. REDUCED \$219,000
- *1725 TREGLOAN, 2+ BD, 1 BA Cape Cod, private street. REDUCED \$211,000
- *3140 BALI LN, 2 BD, 2 BA, 1-level "A" model with pool. REDUCED \$187,000

For additional information on these or other properties contact

TOM HOLSTLAW
Office 748-1773 Home 522-6672 MSG. 769-SOLD
Callagher & Lindsey Realtors

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Web site holds clues to protecting old oak

I have a slope (45 degrees) that is a problem growing anything. The ground is good here, but I believe the problem is that the area is shaded under the shade of a very old oak tree. We have an automatic sprinkler system too. Looking for some bushes and ground cover — pretty low maintenance stuff. Any ideas?

Planting under the canopy is not recommended as you do not like having wet feet the summer. A 200 year old oak is a valuable asset to any property so I would not do anything that would put the tree into jeopardy.

You could plant creeping mahonia repens along the trunk. Also, I would have an arborist come on site to see how to keep the tree healthy.

Our local nursery may have a recommendation or go to my web site www.dirtgardener.com and use the arborist database. It is quite specific.

I have had good success growing zucchini except for the last two years. I get lots of male flowers but they never develop, just rot off. They get a lot of water and I tried hand pollinating without any success. Am I doing wrong?

"Blossom End Rot" is the problem with your squash. It also affects tomatoes, peppers and cucumbers. It is caused by a lack of calcium in the soil and watering practices. Calcium is added by using Oyster Shell Lime at the time of planting.

Wash, peppers, cucumbers and tomatoes like to be kept moist in well draining soil. They de-

velop Blossom End Rot with irregular watering that takes the plants between a wet and dry condition. As the plants get larger you need to lengthen the time between waterings while increasing the amount of water.

The variable is summer temperatures since they vary from week to week. Normally, one or two times a week for squash, cucumbers and peppers is sufficient. With tomatoes every 7-10 days is normal, again it depends on the temperatures.

Q: I have several very old Camellia bushes that have become very sparse in the center. For the last three or four years I have been lazy and not fertilized like I should. How severely can I prune them and should I still be fertilizing them? Also, the flowers get a rusty color, like they are rooting from the inside out.

A: Camellias, young or old need to be fertilized on a regular schedule using Azalea, Camellia and Rhododendron Food, April through October and switching to 0-10-10 November through



by Buzz Bertolero

March. Cottonseed Meal is also a very good substitute.

It is very important to keep the area under Camellias clean of debris and spent flowers.

This prevents "Camellia Petal Blight." Camellia Petal Blight is a disease that causes the center of the flower to rot and turn a rusty color. The best time to prune Camellias is when they are finished flowering.

I would clean out all the dead wood in the center and reduce the top and side growth 12 to 24 inches. Each year, I would repeat the above until you reach the desired size.

Listen to Buzz Bertolero, the Dirt Gardener, Saturdays, 6-8 a.m., on KNBR 68, "The Sports and Gardening Leader." His e-mail address is dirtgarden@aol.com. Visit his web site: www.dirtgarden.com.

Check out garden club library horticulture and plant books

The Oakland East Bay Garden Center Inc. has a library with emphasis on books on plants, gardening and horticulture. The library has 300 reference books available for use at the library and 900 circulating books that circulate for a period of 30 days.

The books are available to all Bay Area residents for the small annual fee of \$2. The library, located in the Garden Center Building in Lakeside Park, 666 Bellevue Ave., Oakland, is open Thurs-

days 11:45 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. (except holidays).

The public is invited to use the library and the other Garden Center facilities. For more information call 482-5252.

To reach the Real Estate Advertising Manager call 339-4046.

Events...

Continued from page 20

for the tour; a \$30 ticket includes a boxed lunch. Tickets available the day of the tour are \$25. To purchase advanced tickets or for more information, call 273-9109.

Woodworking enthusiasts shouldn't miss the San Francisco Bay Area Woodworking Show, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Fri., Sat. and Sun., April 25, 26 and 27 at the Alameda County Fairgrounds, Young California Building, 4501 Pleasanton Ave. in Pleasanton. The show will feature machinery, power and hand tools, seminars, free workshops and more. Call (800) 826-8257 for more information.

The Berkeley Association of Realtors invites you to an Arts and Crafts Fair, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sat., April 26 at the association's auditorium, 1553 Martin Luther King, Jr. Way in Berkeley. The fair will benefit the homeless with proceeds donated to Better Opportunities for Self-Sufficiency (BOSS), the Chaplaincy to the Homeless and the Women's Daytime Drop-In Center. An exciting array of arts and crafts made by local artisans will include jewelry, hats, greeting cards and pottery. Call Toba Schwartz at 849 3771 or David Kafton at 524-8973 for more information.

Marsha Quick of Red Oak Realty and Karen Ward of CMG Mortgage present Woman to Woman: Finding the Keys to Buying Your Own Home, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Sat., April 26 at 1225 Solano Avenue in Albany. Learn how to set priorities and investigate neighborhoods. Team up with industry professionals for an overview of the buying

process, straight talk about interest rates, and strategies for minimizing closing costs. Reservations are required. Call 718-2134.

Park Day School presents Secret Gardens of the East Bay, a tour of ten private gardens, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sun., April 27. Enjoy, among others, a Craftsman-style setting with a melodious brook, a personal memoir of the Mediterranean, elements from the original Shilling Spice gardens and a herb garden with a surprise view of The City. Call 653-0317 for reservations and information.

The Merritt College Horticulture Department invites you to its Annual Horticultural Spring Sale, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Sat. and Sun., May 3 and 4 at the department, 12500 Campus Drive, Oakland. This year's sale will emphasize rare and unusual perennials and shrubs from around the world. Gourmet vegetable starts, annuals and art for the garden will also be available. Plant experts will be on hand to help with your selections. You are also invited to tour the department's demonstration gardens. Call 436-2418 for more information.

Now is the time to prepare for East Bay Habitat for Humanity's Build-A-Thon fund-raiser, Fri., July 4 through Sun., July 6 and Fri., July 11 through Sun., July 13. Join over 1,000 volunteers who will raise over \$100,000 to pay for building materials for 10 new Habitat homes. Sign up early to be a part of this unique and exciting blitz build fund-raiser. Call Chris at 251-6304 for more information.

A free First-Time Home Buyer Seminar, sponsored by Red Oak Realty and Mortgage Network, 1891

Solano Ave., Berkeley is held the first Wed. of each month at 7 p.m. Find out about first-time homebuyer programs, get tips from a licensed Red Oak agent on how to make an offer, negotiate the best deal, handle home inspections; learn about contingencies that may protect a buyer from adverse conditions, and see if it may be more economical to buy rather than to rent. Get prequalified and receive a listing of homes for sale in your price range. Reservations are required. Call Russell Doi at 526-6554 to register or for more information.

Wausau Mortgage Corp. announces Charles Patton's free 203(k) mortgage workshop Rehabilitation for Profit or Equity with a Proven Product. The workshop, which will show you how to use the 203(k) loan program to purchase, renovate and resell property in a short time, is held on an ongoing basis. Call (800) 801-1320, ext. 240 for times and places in your area.

The East Bay Leads Club meets 7:45 a.m. Wednesdays at the Kaiser Center Cafeteria, 300 Lakeside Dr., Oakland. The Leads Club, the largest leads generating organization in the world, is open to all business owners, salespeople, managers and professionals. During weekly 75-minute meetings, each member gives a brief business presentation and exchanges leads collected during the previous week. Call 845-6688 for more information.

For inclusion in Events, send information to Dennis Evanovsky, Real Estate Editor, Hills Newspapers, 5707 Redwood Rd., Oakland, 94619. Phone: 339-4047 Fax: 339-4066. Information must be received one week prior to publication.

Kitchen...

Continued from page 19

Children's Center for its counseling services for foster families, Diabetic Youth Foundation for its

camperships, Loaves and Fishes for its surprise nights for homeless children, and Family Resource Network for its training sessions for families with disabled children. Proceeds from this year's tour, boutique and raffle will provide grants for more such worthy programs.

Advance tickets for the tour at \$20; raffle tickets at \$2 each or 6 for \$10. Tickets for the tour and lunch must be purchased by April 17 and are \$30. To purchase tickets by mail, send a check along with a legal-sized self-addressed stamped envelope to: CSL, 6114 LaSalle Ave., Suite 187, Oakland, CA 94611. Tour tickets are also available at

- Mason-McDuffie Real Estate, 342 Highland Ave., Piedmont;
- Pelago, 6134 Medau Place, Montclair;
- LaSalle Clock & Weather Co., 3344 Lakeshore Ave.;
- Surprise!, 4048 Piedmont Ave.;
- The Gift Horse, 2926 Domingo Ave.;
- Lazy K House at Orchard Nursery, 4010 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Lafayette; and
- Traditions, 1530 Olympic Blvd., Walnut Creek.

Tickets for the tour are also available at the Piedmont Community Center, 711 Highland Avenue, on the days of the tour for \$25

Open Sunday!



310 Ramona Avenue, Piedmont

A wonderfully private home located in the center of town with a level courtyard garden entry, a gorgeous living room, an attractive dining room and a well-designed kitchen with granite countertops and designer cabinetry. This home offers a central hall floor plan and a comfortable master suite. Offered for \$529,000

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Magnificent Craftsman landmark North Berkeley property overlooking private nature preserve. Often attributed to Maybeck, the original house was built in 1911 and designed by Williamson and Winterburn of San Francisco. In 1926 builder John Norris designed and expanded the structure. This property features 5+ bedrooms, 3.5 baths, library study, gallery and a pair unit. 2645 Shasta Road boasts a country setting and is situated on an approximately 35,000 square foot lot.

\$825,000

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117 Hillside Avenue, Piedmont

A grand brown shingle home situated in a central location within walking distance to schools. The home has a very comfortable living and dining rooms with gorgeous architectural detail. The well-designed modern kitchen has high ceilings and a wonderful storage facility. Level, landscaped gardens with pool and private patio.

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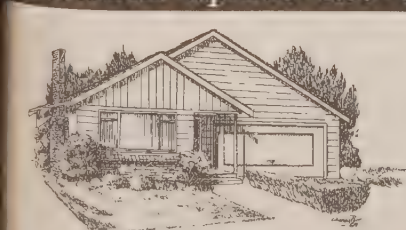
High in Oakland Hills this large 3BR, 2.5BA home features bay view, private yard, huge master suite, close to golf course and regional parks and trails.

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4239 Gregory Street - All Level Living

- 3BR/2BA including master suite.
- Spacious living room with fireplace.
- Family room off kitchen.
- Beautifully landscaped yard with deck.

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(510) 652-0161



PACIFIC UNION

YOUR WEEKEND GUIDE OPEN HOMES

OAKLAND Open Sunday 2-4:30 pm

- 13331 CAMPUS DR, Ridgemont 5bd/4+b custom, sweeping views! \$1,450,000
Pacific Union, Robyn Mohr 339-6460
- 21 BOWLING DR, Truly Grand! 5 1/4 Claremont Pines, library, pool \$1,025,000
Templeton Company, 652-2133 X145 OPEN SUNDAY 2-4
- 943 AQUARIUS WAY, Montclair 4+bd/3+ba, new listing! 1/4 acre \$849,000
Pacific Union, Vicki Woodhead 339-6460
- 119 BEECHWOOD, Claremont Pines, 4bd/3+ba Colonial \$749,000
Mason-McDuffie 339-9290, Annick DaCosta 466-5597
- 2820 BURTON DR, Montclair 5bd/4ba, bay & canyon vws, 3-car gar \$729,000
Pacific Union, Teri Carlisle 339-6460
- 6341 WOOD DR, Montclair 4/3, FDR, brkfst rm, library, parklike \$610,000
Coldwell Banker, Ruby Ng 339-1174
- 5900 WOOD DRIVE, 4bd/3ba, magical transformation, New Listing \$599,000
Mason-McDuffie 339-9290, David Otero 869-4239
- 1087 HUBERT RD, Crocker, country English 4/3, sep studio, garden \$539,000
The GRUBB Company, James Garcia 339-0400
- 3922 HARRISON ST, Turn of century, 6 1/2+, library, full bsmt, attic \$525,000
Pacific Union, Francis Heath 339-6460
- 919 LAKERSBUR RD, Crocker, 5bd, many extras, gracious & elegant \$499,000
The GRUBB Company, Katherine Cooper 339-0400
- 261 SHERIDAN RD, Upr Rockridge 5bd/3+ba, new construction \$479,000
Better Homes, Nahid Nassiri 531-1670
- 15005 BROADWAY TER, Stunning contemporary, view SF/Mt Tam \$469,000
Coldwell Banker, Joan Alford 339-1174
- 854 LONGRIDGE, Crocker, 3+3+, beautifully restored, gourmet kit \$455,000
Coldwell Banker, Dian Hymer 339-1174
- 2930 JOAQUIN MILLER RD, 5bd/3+ba lg contemp w/in-law potential \$449,000
Better Homes, Carin Cerro 339-8400
- 5845 CHABOT CT, Rockridge, must see! 2 hms +cottage in garden \$425,000
The GRUBB Company, Judy Cain 339-0400
- 6516 HEATHER RIDGE, Montclair 3/2+ dreamhse w/Euro amenities \$425,000
Mason-McDuffie 339-9290, Bob Randall 869-4242
- 6915 PINEHAVEN RD, Montclair 5bd/2+ba w/office, size & location \$419,500
Better Homes, Ed Lindorfer 531-8401
- 4315 VIEWCREST CT, Ridgemont, end of cul-de-sac, 4/3, rec room \$419,000
The GRUBB Company, Kurt Meyer 339-0400
- 2749 CARISBROOK DR, P. Pines, pvt garden setting, 3/2, mstr w/ocf \$399,000
Coldwell Banker, Judy Maher 339-1174
- 5727 SNAKE RD, Montclair 4/2 w/great yard, family rm, deck \$399,000
Better Homes, Michael Harding 339-4000
- 101 STARVIEW CT, Hiller, 3bd/2+ba, a beautyl vw of SF & bridge \$398,000
Coldwell Banker, Ollie Hammerel 339-1174
- 2636 MOUNTAIN GATE WAY, 1st open! 5bd/3ba, FDR, tree-lined st \$395,000
Better Homes, Morrie Feigenberg 547-6975
- 223 DUNCAN WAY, Montclair 2bd/1 1/2 tudor & 1/1 cottage, gardens \$395,000
Pacific Union, Kathy Flynn 339-6460
- 11255 ELVESSA, 4bd/3ba, huge family room & more! \$392,500
Mason-McDuffie 834-2010, Demetrius Wilson 869-3740
- 118 SONIA ST, Rockridge 4bd/3ba, FDR, EIK, hardwoods \$369,500
Better Homes, Jennie Lippincott 287-9591
- 1690 TRESTLE GLEN, Crocker 3+bd/1+ba, 2-story, updt'd kitchen \$359,000
Pacific Union, Joan Hause 339-6460
- 1054 LEO WAY, Montclair 4/2, ENCHANTING TUDOR, MOVE IN! \$359,000
Better Homes, Charlene Claybaugh 444-SOLD
- 6115 ROCKRIDGE BL So., 3bd/2ba, skylites, hdwds, charming yd \$352,000
Wells & Bennett, Stan Hammond 531-7000
- 6535 VALLEY VIEW RD, Montclair 3bd/2ba contemporary on \$349,000
nearly 1/2 acre. Ideal for shared living. By Owner 339-0679, Agents Welcome
- 64 STARVIEW DR, Hiller Hghlnds, mstr w/w of bay, circular drive \$349,000
Coldwell Banker, Ollie Hammerel 339-1174
- 15 MASONIC PI, Rockridge, custom, quality 2/2, views, gated courtlyd \$344,000
Better Homes, Hal Marcus 339-9281

- 1155 HOLMAN RD, Crocker Highlands, 3bd/4ba tri-level, like-new, built in 1988, decks, Agent, Rose 376-4849 OPEN SUNDAY 1-4
- 6459 MELVILLE DR, P.Pines stunning/sunlit 4bd/2ba, 1st open! \$335,000
Better Homes, Carol Cohen 339-8400
- 1586 TRESTLE GLEN, 3bd/1 1/2ba, Crocker Highlands tudor, 1st open! \$329,000
Gadsby & Associates, Bill 748-5300
- 5704 MORAGA AVE, Montclair 3/2, new listing! pvt, landscaped yd \$329,000
Pacific Union, Chuck Corwin 339-6460
- 1027 CLARENDON CRES, Crocker 3/1+, upgraded, ultimate kitchen \$329,000
Pacific Union, Donna Costella 339-6460
- 5563 KALES AVE, New listing! Rockridge 3/1, hdwds, frpl, patio \$325,000
J. T. Ward Realtors, Gayle Tantau 845-6021 OPEN SUNDAY 2-4
- 940 ALMA PL, 3+bd, master suite, large fenced yard, deck \$324,000
Mason-McDuffie 428-0900, Nancy Lehrkind 644-5466
- 6132 JOHNSTON DR, Montclair 5bd/3ba, sunny, level, in, on cul-de-sac, hills view, Agent/Joel Kirschbaum 254-6180 OPEN SUNDAY 1-5
- 421-387 CAPRICORN, 3bd w/EIK, plus rm, also sep 1/1 cottage \$319,000
The GRUBB Company, Judy Rankankan 339-0400
- 6185 WESTOVER, Montclair, elegant 4/3 split level, FDR, decks \$315,000
Coldwell Banker, Jeanne McHugh 466-1495
- 461 FLORENCE AV, Upr Rockridge 2bd, lg verandah off kit, garden \$314,000
The GRUBB Company, Bettina Balestrieri 339-0400
- 4295 SEQUOYAH, Park setting on 1/4 acre, 4bd/3ba, move in!! \$312,000
The GRUBB Company, Judy Rankankan 339-0400
- 6768 EVERGREEN AVE, Woodsy Montclair 3+2 1/2 split-level, decks \$305,000
Wells & Bennett, Kate Phillips 436-4100
- 1842 BRENTWOOD RD, Upr Oakmore, cozy 3bd/2ba charmer, \$299,900
hardwoods, FDR, eat-in kitchen, landscaped yd w/bay view, Michael 482-4064
- 2033 MANZANITA, Montclair 3+bd/2ba level living, FDR, fam rm \$299,500
Pacific Union, Dick Cohen 339-6460
- 278 EUCLID AVE, Adams Point duplex, 1bd unit with frpl, FDR, also \$299,500
2bd unit, dbl garage, large lot, Priscilla Dunlap 537-3076 OPEN SUNDAY 2-5
- 153 GLENWOOD GLADE, Montclair 2/1+ cottage, private, 2 frpl \$299,000
Pacific Union, Nancy Chew 339-6460
- 4194 OPAL ST, Temescal 2/1 bungalow w/lovely garden, plus room \$299,000
The GRUBB Company, Susanne Paul 339-0400
- 3288 JORDAN RD, Redwood Hts, custom 2/1 bungalow, charm, yd \$299,000
Mason-McDuffie 339-9290, Erik Johnson 869-4246
- 6651 CHABOT RD, Rockridge 2bd plus den, hardwood floors \$299,000
Mason-McDuffie 428-0900, David Ichikawa 547-8978
- 4101 39TH AVE, Redwood Hts 3/3, lg mstr w/bay view, gardens \$298,000
Pacific Union, Diane E. McCan 339-6460
- 6355 GIRVIN DR, P. Pines spacious 2bd, den/office, fam rm to deck \$295,000
The GRUBB Company, Anian Tunney 339-0400
- 5825 MERRIEWOOD, Best value! SF & bay view, 3bd/2ba \$289,500
Mason-McDuffie 428-0900, Jeffrey Himmel 644-5464
- 1995 WRENN, Oakmore 3bd/2ba, renovated, bay view, New Listing! \$289,500
Mason-McDuffie 339-9290, Bill Boze 869-4216
- 4027 LYMAN RD, Oakmore 2bd/1ba Spanish Med, office, grt yard \$289,000
Pacific Union, Donna DeBardi 339-6460
- 159 SANTA ROSA, Rose Garden area, spacious 3/1+, hdwds, frpl \$289,000
Mason-McDuffie, Gaynell Estle 834-2010
- 4114 LYMAN, Oakmore charmer! 2+bd/1ba \$289,000
Mason-McDuffie 339-9290, Gene Bommer 869-4202
- 4629 MOUNTAIN BL, Leona Hts, large 4bd/3+ba, 2283 sq ft, 2 frpls, built-in BBQ, corner lot, Tom Gae, Agent 540-6547
- 7650 HANSOM DR, 1st time on market! 3bd/2+ba, Sequoyah Hills \$279,000
Better Homes, Elaine Jones 287-9748

- 6376 THORNHILL DR, Montclair 2/2, new listing! woodsy retreat \$279,000
Pacific Union, Vicki Woodhead 339-6460
- 7548 ALTURA PL, Take another look! reduced! new constr, bay vw \$279,000
Wells & Bennett, Jackie Carter 531-7000
- 4239 GREGORY ST, Redwd Hts 3/2, new listing! landscaped, deck \$275,000
Pacific Union, Teri Carlisle 339-6460
- 7130 HOMEWOOD, Sunny & private, Montclair 2bd, garage, deck, yd \$275,000
Wells & Bennett, Judy Farrell 531-7000
- 1075 GLENDORA AVE, Glenview 3bd/1 1/2ba craftsman, charm, yard \$269,000
Better Homes, Arnold Mueller 339-6460
- 4255 MALCOLM, Oaklnd Hills 3/2 w/spectacular, enchanted garden \$269,000
Mason-McDuffie 339-9290, Bob Sereda 869-4255
- 10356 GREENVIEW DR, Sequoyah Hghlnds, View! 2 1/1 split level \$265,000
Richardson Real Estate, Georgia Richardson, Broker 569-3499
- 4230 DETROIT AVE, Redwood Hts 3/1+, new listing! grt details \$259,500
Pacific Union, Diane E. McCan 339-6460
- 87 ECHO AV, Piedmont Ave area, nwr 4 1/2+ 2-story, deck, sunny yd \$259,500
Coldwell Banker, Vicky Faulk 339-1174
- 6677 BANNING DR, Montclair 3bd/1 1/2ba+1/2ba, value! hdwds, FDR \$259,000
Better Homes, Richard Keeling 287-9592
- 4093 WATERHOUSE RD, Oakmore, 2/1, new listing! aupair w/bath \$259,000
Pacific Union, Sandi Klemmer 339-6460
- 4119 MONTGOMERY, Piedmont Ave 3/2, style/location/character! \$259,000
Mason-McDuffie 428-0900, Herman Luna 839-8730
- 6286 COLBY, Rockridge vintage 2+bd bungalow, FDR, parklike yard \$257,000
Coldwell Banker, Candace Hyde-Wang 486-1495
- 724 CALMAR, New listing w/curb appeal, 2/1 colonial, +rm w/entry \$255,000
Coldwell Banker, Ruby Ng 339-1174
- 4354 LEACH, Just listed! 3bd, formal dining, EIK, yd, new roof/paint \$255,000
Wells & Bennett, Peter Nicolopoulos 339-9780
- 4478 REINHARDT, Redwood Hts, 4bd/2ba, prime fixer/gd location \$255,000
Mason-McDuffie 339-9290, Howard Converse 869-4212
- 3940 SEQUOYAH RD, 3+bd/1+ba, new listing! pool & hot tub, FDR \$249,000
Pacific Union, Lee Jacobson 339-6460
- 3900 GREENWOOD AV, Glenview beauty! 2/1 classic crtsmn, decks \$249,000
Coldwell Banker, Lynne Bantle 339-1174
- 4537 FIELDBROOK, Redwood Hts, 2+bd/1 1/2 w/quality! New Listing \$245,000
Mason-McDuffie 339-9290, D. A. Hammond 869-4219
- 3926 ATLAS, New listing! 3/1, plank frs, FDR, brkfst area, 2-car gar \$241,000
Wells & Bennett, Chris Christensen 531-7000
- 1908 CLEMENS, Private garden retreat! 2/1 Oakmore Med, bay vws \$239,500
Coldwell Banker, Karen Lun 339-1174
- 44421 CLAREWOOD DR, Rockridge 2+2+, sunny twnhse, patio, decks \$239,000
Pacific Union, Kathleen Callahan 339-6460
- 5630 MORAGA AVE, Montclair 2/1 Normandy cottage, 2 patios \$232,500
Pacific Union, Bonnie Hirsch 339-6460
- 4458 ELINORA AVE, Redwood Hts 3/1, remod kit, new roof, garden \$232,500
Pacific Union, Diane E. McCan 339-6460
- 1016 ELBERT ST, Glenview, 2bd/1 1/2ba newly renovated, hdwds, \$229,000
country living, woodsy setting, view, Agent/Barry 839-4395
- 3947 ARDLEY, Value! 2bd + office, trd floor plan, lg LR & DR, yd \$219,000
Wells & Bennett, Nancy Novick 482-2392
- 4732 REINHARDT DR, Redwd Hts 2/1, gardeners paradise! Reduced \$214,000
Better Homes, Victor Fierro 832-4339
- 3251 WISCONSIN, Laurel, new price, grt 2bd/1ba starter w/upgrades \$210,000
Mason-McDuffie 339-9290, Vikki Landes 869-4225
- 4437 CARSON ST, 3bd/1 1/2ba, reduced for quick sale! nr Hwy 13 \$208,000
Gadsby & Associates, Lois 748-5300
- 447 43rd, Move right in! charming 2/1 bungalow, EZ SF commute \$168,000
Coldwell Banker, The Longs 486-1495
- 5022 CAMDEN, 3bd/2ba, great fixer in Maxwell Park \$162,000
Gadsby & Associates, Bill 748-5300
- 2618 55th Av, Maxwell PK, blend of original charm & tasteful updates \$159,500
Coldwell Banker, Kevin McMullen 339-1174
- 3510 MAPLE, Laurel, New Listing! 2bd/1ba w/character & comfort \$155,000
Mason-McDuffie 339-9290, Cindy Boze 869-4203
- 9016 SENECA, Cozy 2bd, fireplace, den, updated kitchen \$147,500
Mason-McDuffie 834-2010, Chenita Suster 536-9510
- 3065 BIRDSALL, Maxwell Park 2bd/1ba, recently remodeled, \$144,000
frpl, lovely yard, National RE Services, Charles Rivers 482-2380
- 7553 VALENTINE ST, 2bd/1ba w/spacious EIK, hdwds, picket fence \$139,500
Pacific Union, Lee Jacobson 339-6460
- 458 38th ST, Stained glass windows, charm, basement, A must see! \$137,500
Mason-McDuffie, Tim Berra 845-0200 OPEN SUNDAY 2-4
- 1622 E. 20th, Affordable 3bd/1 1/2ba, decks & garden, SF view \$126,000
Coldwell Banker, Marilyn Bremser 339-1174
- 5611 LaSALLE AVE, 3bd/2ba, new paint/roof, den, patio, garden \$
The GRUBB Company, Elizabeth Dickson 339-0400

ALBANY Open Sunday

- 946 TAYLOR, Sunny 4bd/3ba, family room, cozy den, woodstove \$379,000
Coldwell Banker, Glida Waldman 486-1495 OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30
- 930 ORDAWAY, Just listed! 2bd/1 1/2ba, lg kitchen, lg lot \$256,000
Coldwell Banker, Kim Cleveland 486-1495 OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30
- 946 MASONIC, 3bd, FDR, hdwds, EIK, garage, extra storage \$189,000
Mason-McDuffie, Darrin Tinsley 834-2010 OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30
- 725 PIERCE, Sweet 2bd w/bay views! hobby rm, updt'd kit, hdwds \$185,000
Coldwell Banker, Diane Verducci 486-1495 OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30

BERKELEY Open Sunday 2-4:30 pm

- 959 MILLER AVE, No. Berkeley 4 1/3+, FDR, vw of SF & bay, fam rm \$895,000
The GRUBB Company, Jeanette Roach 339-0400
- 2645 Shasta Rd, Landmark, 5+ 1/3+ craftsman, pvt nature reserve \$825,000
Templeton Company, Susie Schell 652-2133 X144 OPEN SUNDAY 2-5
- 36 OAK RIDGE RD, Claremont, cul-de-sac, 4/3 Med, new listing \$775,000
Templeton Company, Paul Templeton 652-2133 X131 OPEN SUNDAY 2-4
- 2714 PIEDMONT AVE, Elegant Mediterranean in prime Elmwood \$625,000
location. Master bd/bath suite plus 4 add'l bedrooms each w/private bath, Deck & patio. David Stone, Broker 547-5090/644-3634
- 416 KENTUCKY, New listing! 4bd/2 1/2ba, bay vw, 2 offices, wkshop \$469,000
Marvin Gardens 527-2700, Ann Ariola Plant 287-8761 OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30
- 825 HILLDALE, Berk Hills, 4/3, 3 bridge vws, mstr w/deck, garden \$459,000
Coldwell Banker, Cheryl Cahn 486-1495
- 1212 MILVIA, Charming No. Berkeley 4/2 crtsmn nr Monterey Mkt \$389,000
Coldwell Banker, Adrienne Broche 339-1174
- 1305-B HENRY ST, 2bd/2+ b gorgeous twnhm, quality! 2 mstr suites \$319,500
Pacific Union, Joanna Gould 339-6460
- 1711 BUENA, New listing! 3+bd/1ba Mediterranean Magic \$299,000
Red Oak Realty 527-3387 X109 OPEN SUNDAY 2-4
- 2929 LINDEN AV, New listing, Elmwood 3bd, 2 encl porches, fenced yd \$295,000
Templeton Company, Bebe McRae 652-2133 X145 OPEN SUNDAY 2-5
- 2307-09 PRINCE ST @ Halcyon Ct, sunny lg 2bd owners +3 rentals \$290,000
Templeton Company, Jack McPhail 652-2133 X135 OPEN SUNDAY 2-4
- 2061 EUNICE, No. Berk, Just listed! 3bd/1 1/2ba, walk to shops \$285,000
Coldwell Banker, Rita Zwerdling 486-1495
- 2143 EUNICE ST, Brown shingle 2bd cottage w/bay vws, sunporch \$269,000
Templeton Company, Bebe McRae 652-2133 X145
- 1651-53 CALIFORNIA, Nwly remod 2/1 units, walk Gourmet Ghetto \$249,000
Coldwell Banker, Jerry Long 486-1495
- 1811 MILVIA, Just listed! 3/1+ Victorian, 2 frpl, stroll to restaurants \$239,500
Coldwell Banker, Nancy Reichert 486-1495
- 2979 PIEDMONT, Elmwood, 2bd condo, FDR, frpl, walk College Av \$239,500
Coldwell Banker, Nancy Silver 486-1495

- 1056 EUCLID AVE, New price for 2bd/1ba bungalow, orig offer \$229,000
Templeton Company, Leslie Avant 652-2133 X122 OPEN SUNDAY 2-4
- 2533-2533 1/2 CALIFORNIA, 2/2 Victorian style w/1/1 rental \$229,000
Thornwall Properties, Kathryn Hill 848-1950 X242 OPEN SUNDAY 2-4
- 2078-80 EMERSON, Just listed! duplex, 2bd each, garden, nr Bldg \$229,000
Coldwell Banker, Barbara Marienthal 486-1495
- 1904 MILVIA No. Berk next to Ohlone Pk, 2+2, nw kit, walk to shops \$229,000
Coldwell Banker, Barbara Marienthal 486-1495
- 893 KEELER, Just listed! sweet/sunny 2bd cottage w/view, lg mstr \$229,000
Coldwell Banker, Rudy Rose 486-1495
- 1314 DWIGHT WAY, 2bd/2ba bright & spacious, deep private yd \$229,000
Thornwall Properties, Marilyn Pursley 848-1950 X224 OPEN SUNDAY 2-4
- 1435 ALLSTON WAY, Charming remod 1bd cottage w/lovely garden \$229,000
Marvin Gardens 527-2700, Alice McLeish 526-1101 OPEN SUNDAY 2-4
- 1912 CHESTNUT, Diamond in the rough needs yd 2bd/1ba \$229,000
Red Oak Realty 527-3387 X112 OPEN SUNDAY 2-4
- 1040 CAMELIA ST, Updated cheerful 2bd/1ba, wonderful garden \$229,000
Thornwall Properties, Kathryn Hill 848-1950 X230 OPEN SUNDAY 2-4
- 1640C WALNUT, 1bd/1ba, sunny No. Campus TIC unit, upstairs w/ \$229,000
Thornwall Properties, Kathryn Hill 848-1950 X242 OPEN SUNDAY 2-4

EL CERRITO Open Sunday

- 2005 TAPSCOTT, EC Hills custom built 5/3, pano vws, walk BART \$499,000
Marvin Gardens, Mary Gray 466-5843, Melissa Elzenberg 466-5843
- 3032 SAN MATEO, New price! 2bd/1b cottage, new paint/cpl/parquet \$229,000
Red Oak Realty 527-3387 X195 OPEN SUNDAY 2-4

PIEDMONT Open Sunday 2-4:30 pm

- 44 FARRAGUT, 7+bd/5+ba, beautifully restored, 1/2acre, bay view \$499,000
Pacific Union, Georgia Cornell 339-6460
- 43 FARRAGUT, Piedmont, Just like new construction! \$429,000
Mason-McDuffie 428-0900, Mavis Delacroix 658-6332
- 255 MOUNTAIN AVE, 4bd/3b, new listing! remod kit/ba & mstr nrm \$429,000
Pacific Union, Debi Fitzgerald 339-6460
- 36 CREST RD, Lovely 3+bd/3+ba, level-in, peaceful setting \$429,000
Pacific Union, Patricia Scott 339-6460
- 55 TYSON CIRCLE, 3 sunny bd, gorgeous kit/fam rm, incredible \$429,000
The GRUBB Company, Sheila Gallagher 339-0400
- 46 CRAIG AV, 3+2/2, sunroom, den, office, central to schls/parks \$429,000
Better Homes, Helen Nicholas 339-8400
- 11 LaSALLE AVE, 4bd/3b, 3800 sq ft, huge closets, storage galley \$429,000
The GRUBB Company, Kurt Buchholz 339-0400
- 310 RAMONA AVE, New designer kitchen, pvt sunny patio, garden \$429,000
The GRUBB Company, Ed Kuo 339-0400
- 518 SCENIC AV, 3+bd/2+ba, privacy, charm, SF bay vws, new kitchen \$429,000
Pacific Union, Martha Holstian 339-6460
- 1827 OAKLAND AV, 3bd/2+ b, play rm, deck, FDR, centrally located \$429,000
The GRUBB Company, Angela Wei Grubb 339-0400
- 230 PARK VIEW, 3+bd/1 1/2ba, special split-level Mediterranean \$429,000
Mason-McDuffie 428-0900, Maddy Hickling 655-6896
- 295 SCENIC, New listing! 1st open! 4bd/2ba hideaway fixer, hill vw \$429,000
Better Homes, Earle Shenk 287-9590

RICHMOND Open Sunday

- 1912 CARQUINEZ, R. View, new kit/ba, 2bd, seismic, vw Mt Tam \$429,000
Ritchey Real Estate 527-3060 OPEN SUNDAY 2-5
- 6034 MONTEREY, R. Hills, luxury, custom 3bd/2+ba, family rm \$429,000
Mason-McDuffie 527-9800, Clara 287-5833 OPEN SUNDAY 12-6
- 1339 MERCED, R. Annex, great 2bd/1b fixer upper, excellent lot \$429,000
Red Oak Realty 527-3387 X121 OPEN SUNDAY 2-4
- SAN LEANDRO Open Sunday**
- 1958 LONGVIEW DR, 3bd \$429,000
Rinetti & Company, Al 568-6171 OPEN SUNDAY 1-4
- 1105 BEGIER AVE, 3bd \$429,000
Deadrach Real Estate, Hank 632-1234 OPEN SUNDAY 1-3
- 19536 ALANA RD, 3bd \$429,000
Deadrach Real Estate, Cecile 632-1234 OPEN SUNDAY 1-4
- 837 RODNEY, 3bd \$429,000
By Owner 483-8328 OPEN SUNDAY 1-4
- 2055 STAR PINE WAY, 3bd \$429,000
Century 21 Korpi & Associates, Scott 276-2020 X132 OPEN SUNDAY 1-4
- 827 EVERGREEN AVE, 3bd \$429,000
Rinetti & Company, Derek 568-6171 OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30

- 1183 136TH AVE, 3bd \$429,000
Century 21 Korpi & Associates, Dorothy 276-2020 OPEN SUNDAY 1-4
- 2519 GALLEON, Many upgrades! 3 1/2 twnhm, tile entry, frpl, pool \$429,000
Harbor Bay Realty, Tere Lee 521-3352 OPEN SUNDAY 2-4

- 435 ELSIE AVE, 2bd \$429,000
By Owner 276-1603 OPEN SUNDAY 1-4
- 128 CASTRO CT, 2bd \$429,000
Deadrach Real Estate, Jerry 632-1234 OPEN SUNDAY 1-3
- 19425 HATHAWAY AVE, 3bd \$429,000
The Village Realtors, Tom 481-0511 OPEN SUNDAY 12:30-4:30
- 26088 KAY AVE #208, 1bd \$429,000
The Village Realtors, Tom 481-0511 OPEN SUNDAY 1-4
- 1400 CARPENTIER, Designer 1bd/1ba condo w/custom upgrades \$429,000
Mason-McDuffie 834-2010, Scott Ladymon 433-9653 OPEN SUNDAY 1-4

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DEADLINE: Tuesday, 5:00 p.m.

Education Fund to Name Debbie Ojeda Distinguished Citizen Annual banquet

Debbie Ojeda to Receive Distinguished Citizen Award

Friday, May 16, The Ed. Fund held its ninth annual "Teach- Excellence Awards Banquet" at the Richmond Convention Center. The awards from the dinner are used to support Ed. Fund minigrants and grants at schools throughout the West Contra Costa School District.

Minigrants are \$15 for WCCUSD and \$30 for single tickets, \$300 for eight. Tickets, call 233-1464, or send check to 1807 Arlington, El Cerrito, 94530.

In future columns I hope to profile the teacher award recipients in the category of "Teach- Excellence."

Ojeda was looking for a role model for service to West County. Debbie Ojeda would be a place to start. This year's recipient of the Ed. Fund's "Distinguished Citizen" Award has over 20 years of solid dedication to the children and youth of her community.

Ojeda is currently president of Teachers in Progress, a parent group serving Tara Hills elementary school in San Pablo, and simultaneously serves on the board of the Pinole Middle School.

Pinole Valley High School in Tara Hills, she has also been Teachers in Progress (VIP) history chair, coordinator of grade culmination activities, drama club coordinator. Tara Hills drama club is completely volunteer and involves over 125 students every year.

Ojeda is truly a great person who has done much to the teachers and students of our school," said Tara Hills principal Bonnie Glover.

Ojeda cites one of Ojeda's most meaningful activities as typical kinds of projects she has

come up with during her 13 years of service to Tara Hills.

In February of this year, Ojeda implemented a "Random Acts of Kindness Program." Ojeda led the campaign through morning announcements, personal testimonies and walking around the school looking for kind acts.

"The 'Random Acts of Kindness Program' was so successful that we are going to make it an annual tradition at Tara Hills," said Glover. "Random Acts of Kindness really typifies Debbie Ojeda."

In addition to her work with schools, Ojeda has also been active at the Fairmeade Alliance Church where she has served as Drama Director and also serves as Parent Coordinator for the Young Actor's Workshop.

Listening to Mrs. Glover describe the work and achievements of Ojeda, it seemed as if "Random Acts of Kindness" really described her ongoing presence at Tara Hills.

Those gifts are most precious which are freely given and Ojeda's service to the children and schools certainly falls in that category.

Congratulations Ms. Ojeda on this award — may your example inspire many others to follow in your footsteps.

Celebrate Earth Day and Help Schools on April 19

Several schools in El Cerrito including Castro (1420 Norvell), Fairmont (715 Lexington) and Harding (7115 C Street) will be hosting cleanup events this coming Saturday, April 19, as part of the citywide celebration of Earth Day. Work parties get underway at 9 a.m. and participants are then invited for a barbeque at the Community Center beginning about 12:30 p.m.

El Cerrito High School will be joining Earth Day festivities with a commemoration of the national PTA's 100th anniversary by doing



100 improvement projects around the school. The event is also scheduled for Saturday, April 19, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at El Cerrito High School.

The 100 projects will be large and small with opportunities at all skill levels. Volunteers are welcome to stay for part or all of the day.

Pinole Valley High School Seeks Volunteers for NetDay

Pinole Valley High School is planning a big NetDay for this Saturday, April 19. Richard Snitzer from Sun Microsystems, Inc. will be the project director and will lead three teams of workers connecting 35 classrooms to the Internet.

Anyone interested in helping or just cheering the team on, please contact Ruth Jenkins at rjenkins@wccusd.k12.ca.us or contact the school at 758-4664.

Change of Venue for Alliance Forum

The location for the Alliance for Public Education's upcoming forum: "Welfare Reform: Its Effect on Children and Schools" has been changed from Woodrow Wilson elementary to Contra Costa College. The forum is on Saturday, May 17, from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.

(Want to receive "West County School Watch" and additional WCCUSD related information and alerts delivered to your email address? Send the message "Subscribe WCCSW" to pakglenn@aol.com. West County School Watch is on the World Wide Web: <http://www.igc.org/westcounty/>.)

Teacher Feature

Shop talk with Portola's Steve Severy

By Linda Goldfarb

It's bigger than a bread box and smaller than an airline hanger. It holds enough equipment to build a house (and even a boat). It has an incredible view of the San Francisco Bay just outside its door, and ... it has 28 desks. Welcome to Portola Middle School's industrial arts facility!

"When I was in junior high, I had advisory in this very room," recalls Steve Severy, Portola's industrial arts teacher, as he looks around at the seats now occupied by his students.

Severy is a veteran of the Richmond school system, having attended El Cerrito schools from kindergarten through high school. Recognizing he had a talent for drawing, he enrolled in California College of Arts and Crafts after graduation from El Cerrito High in 1966.

"I thought I was going to be an artist," he said. But Severy quickly realized he wasn't ready for college. He deferred school and joined the Army, spending 19 months of his tour inspecting and repairing heavy trucks in Thailand. Upon his return, he was ready to continue his education and received his teaching credential in Industrial Arts from San Francisco State. He was quickly snapped up by Helms Junior High in San Pablo to teach General Shop.

In Severy's 10th year at Helms, Paul Higley, Portola's shop teacher for 31 years, decided to retire. Higley had recognized Severy's talent for teaching industrial arts when Severy was a student teacher working towards his credential.

"Get Steve here and hire him," Higley suggested to the principal. The next year, Severy began work.

Severy now teaches Beginning and Advanced Shop as well as Architecture/Drafting. Before allowing any fingers near the power tools, his priority is teaching students to work safely. A heavy orange line separates the power tools from the hand tools — "No one crosses that line without permission," says Severy.

Students craft chessboards, tool



Steve Severy, Portola's industrial arts teacher, helps his students create everything from tool boxes to clocks and dog houses. He and his students even made a racing dinghy.

boxes, clocks, and various other wood and metal projects. As a final activity, his Architecture/Drafting students build a miniature house and at the same time get a lesson in business management. Given a set of plans and a budget, they are instructed to designate the construction crew, buy raw materials, frame, insulate and shingle the house.

To supplement the funds for his classes, Severy has become an inventive fund-raiser. He and his students have done everything from building and selling dog houses made from leftover wood to constructing an authentic El Toro rac-

ing dinghy

"When I proposed the sailboat project, many thought it overly ambitious," recalls Severy. But with the teacher's encouragement and the students' perseverance and hard work, the class succeeded and the boat was launched from the Richmond Harbor last June.

The West County School District is a family affair for the Severys. Severy's wife, Michelle, teaches kindergarten at Harding Elementary in El Cerrito, and his two children, 7-year-old Mark and 10-year-old Stephanie, are students at Kensington Hilltop School.

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THE MULBERRY SCHOOL

The Mulberry School is a private preschool in the Berkeley Hills for children ages 3-5 years. Our classroom serves 20 children per hour from 9:00-2:00 Monday through Friday with extended hours morning and afternoon.

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The "Session Program" offers selected tennis activities for two weeks. Fees vary depending on the program.

Our Soccer camp offers individualized instruction and game play. Each camper will receive a camp ball and t-shirt. This is a one week camp.

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The 11th annual Secret Gardens of the East Bay will take place Sunday, April 28, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m., rain or shine. Above, 'Potomac Waterworks' from the 1997 Secret Gardens of the East Bay garden tour. Call 653-6250 for more information or reservations.

Explore secret gardens of the East Bay

The soothing sounds of a cascading fountain and the flip of a koi tail breaking the surface of a living pond are among the delights to be found on the 11th annual Secret Gardens of the East Bay Garden Tour, Sunday, April 27, rain or shine.

Sponsored by Park Day School, an independent K-6 school, proceeds from the tour benefit the school's academic and scholarship programs.

This year's tour consists of 10 private gardens in Oakland, Piedmont and Berkeley. Bicycle touring maps are also available;

carpooling is encouraged. The gardens are not accessible to strollers or wheelchairs.

Tickets are \$30 per person and include a map for a self-guided tour and a booklet providing detailed descriptions of each garden.

Box lunches with iced drinks are available for an additional \$7, and may be picked up at Park Day School anytime during the hours of the tour. Complimentary refreshments will be served at the school during the afternoon. Park Day School is located at 370 43rd St. at Shafter Avenue.

During the lunch hour several noted gardening experts will present talks on campus: Mimi Luebberrmann, author of *Little Herb Gardens*, will explain why fresh herbs belong in every garden.

Bob Castellon, past president of the East Bay Bonsai Society, will talk about "Designing Trees to Fit Your Garden," and will explain the basics of spring pruning. Garden designer Suzanne Porter and sculptor John Oldani will present "Water Features 101," covering the fundamentals of this hot topic.

The Secret Gardens of the East

Bay Garden Tour provides an outstanding opportunity to view some of the most distinguished landscapes in California, gardens that are not otherwise open to the public.

Hats or caps and sensible shoes are recommended; sketchbooks and cameras are welcome. In addition to volunteer docents placed at each garden, many of the property owners and landscape designers will be on hand to welcome guests and answer questions.

For more information and to purchase tickets, please call the Garden Tour Hotline at 653-6250.

On-campus job fair

Break out your resume and get into the job-search mode. Contra Costa College will host a Job Fair on campus on Friday, April 18, from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. on the Quad between the library and the Student Association Building.

It is designed primarily for students, but is open to anyone from the public who is seeking employment. There is no charge.

Employers from a cross section of industries throughout the Bay Area will be present. Interested persons are invited to bring their resumes to submit for open positions, both for permanent and summer jobs.

Among the employers who will be present are Safeway, Andronico's, Berkeley Marina Marriott, Bill Graham Presents, Target, Office Max, Barnes & Noble, the Richmond Police Department, Noah's Bagels, California Conservation Corps, Bank of America and Home Depot.

For more information, contact John Christensen at 235-7800, extension 344.

Information night at El Cerrito High

El Cerrito High School will hold an information night for the El Cerrito community on Thursday, May 8, in the El Cerrito High School Cafeteria from 7 - 8:30 p.m. Any interested community members

may come and tour El Cerrito High School, and ask questions of administrators, teachers, students and current PTA members.

Contact Allison Syren, 525-0234.

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Albany PTA Council News

Thursday, April 17
7 - 8 p.m., Cornell School
Cornell Open House
Thursday, April 17
7 - 8 p.m. Marin School
Marin Open House
Thursday, April 17
7 p.m., Macgregor
Vista-Macgregor PTA
Topic: TV Turnoff Week, 4/24-4/30
April 23-26
AMS Book Fair
Wednesday: 8:15 a.m. - 3:45 p.m.
Thursday 8:15 a.m. - 3:45 p.m., & 6 - 9 p.m.
Friday 8:15 a.m. - 3:45 p.m.
Volunteers needed, please call Gail Williams, 525-5718
Thursday, April 24
7 - 8:30 p.m., AMS

AHS Open House
Monday, April 28
7:30 p.m. Cornell
Cornell Site
Contact: Charlie B...
8964
Tuesday, April 29
7:30 p.m., Cornell
room
Board of Ed...
Topic: Agenc...
AUSD Office
Wednesday, April 30
7 p.m., AMS
Topic: PTA...
ing a district-wide
math and language
cycle Connie H...
rector of Curriculum
speaker. (Call Belinda
2429 with news items.)

AHS lifts 'Final Curtain'

On Wednesday, April 23, Albany High School presents its Showcase '97. This event, billed as "The Final Curtain" begins at 6:30 p.m. and continues to 9 p.m.

The entire community is cordially invited to come and learn about Albany High School's many academic and extracurricular activities.

Bruce Downing, the AHS teacher who is again coordinating the event, says that this year's event is designed to enlighten all interested parties.

"We want to give parents and students alike a view of the wide variety of offerings at our high school. Not everyone knows how much we do here," said Downing.

There will be a French Bistro where you can order croissants and watch French language students perform real-life dramas.

Test your scientific knowledge against the AHS Science Bowl team, who will be practicing their famous quick-answer techniques. Biology students will be giving oral reviews of human organ systems.

Astronomy students will be scanning the skies, via computer imagery. Math students will show you

how to use the latest in calculators, an essential piece of equipment in today's world.

In a different mood, Romeo and Juliet will be in places on balcony and under the fate of young love.

The AHS music department, fresh off its Southern tour, will be performing in the Theater.

All interested in the choir, the concert band and the rock band should check the schedule. And the AHS Gallery can meet the artists - viewing.

In addition, an AHS and an administrator will answer questions on course descriptions to building.

Extracurricular activities represented as well. The Club will show you how to net.

The Intramural Sports Doubles Ping Pong Club demonstrate their talents in the gymnasium.

New to the Showcase is the Book Fair in the school.

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DON'T MISS ALBANY DAY AT THE RACES ON SATURDAY, APRIL 26!

Golden Gate Fields hosts Albany Day at the Races.

This means fun for the whole family. Thrill to the heart-pounding excitement of Thoroughbred racing. Enjoy live music and an old fashioned barbecue - with burgers, hot dogs and beer! Plus, the kids will have a blast with the Bounce Machine and more.

Look for Your FREE Tickets!

Two free tickets to Albany Day were mailed to the homes of all residents in Albany and El Cerrito. If you didn't receive your tickets, contact the Albany Chamber of Commerce at (510) 525-1771.

Ladbroke Racing

Golden Gate Fields
WHERE IT PAYS TO PLAY

I-80 just north of Berkeley. Use Gilman St. or City of Albany Exit. Also take AC Transit or BART.
(510) 559-7300. First live race 12:45 p.m., Fridays at 6:15 p.m.

Help our planet: and here's how...

Tuesday, April 22 is Earth Day and here are a few suggestions from the City of Albany for environmentalists to help our planet:

Motor Oil Recycling
Recycle motor oil. Call for a free curbside collection container. K oil and other potentially fluids and solids out of gutter and storm drains.

Recycling
Remember to set out the curb each week and garden materials every on your regular trash collection. Call for a bin sticker brochure.

Adopt-A-Tree
Beautify Albany tonight. Choose a tree from a City list and pay \$37 per tree (concrete removal). The tree planted in winter 1997.

Get Out of the Car
Spring is here and the great, enjoy it. Keep pool of the air. Car pool, take a bike. It can be said, cling is the most energy form of transportation. can transport one more unit of energy expended other method of transportation.

Help Clean a Creek
Attend one or both of the Clean-Up Events. Refreshments will be provided. Wear gloves and bring gloves. On April 26, 10 a.m. - noon, meet at the El Cerrito Creek, north of Street, BBQ to follow. On April 27, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m., meet at the Creek on the south side of Cerrito Plaza.

For more information about Albany's Environmental programs, call the City of Albany Community Development and Environmental Resources Department at 528-5760.

For curbside motor oil collection containers, call Waste Management of Alameda County at 8710.

Albany looking past this season to next year?

But Lady Cougars' softball team might make playoffs because five of last six games are at home

By Mac Montandon

At first glance it may seem unlikely that this year's Albany softball team will make the playoffs—a spot it narrowly missed last year.

At 1-2 in the Alameda-Contra Costa Athletic League, and overall heading into Wednesday's game at Kennedy, the Cougars are off to somewhat of a slow start.

When you realize they rely heavily on a freshman to carry the bulk of the pitching duties, you are tempted to believe that

next year may be the Cougars' year, not this one.

On closer inspection, however, you begin to think it unwise to discount coach Loring Barker's club for the campaign at hand.

For starters, the freshman in question, Abby McCullough, is no ordinary player.

"She's quite strong," Barker says of his ace. "She throws pretty hard, and she has a real interest in the game. She's been working on week-ends, after practices, trying to improve."

Barker expects the team's record and confidence to improve as well

over the next couple weeks in preparation for a big home game against Piedmont on April 30. Piedmont figures to be one of the teams in the middle of the ACCAL pack Albany will battle for one of the six postseason spots.

The Cougars are on the road until then in games against St. Joseph and St. Elizabeth.

"In those games we should have a good chance to get our record improved and gain a little confidence, I hope," the coach said.

The Cougars can be further encouraged by the idea that they could easily have a better record this year

with a few timely hits, as they've lost two games to El Cerrito by a combined three runs. While Albany may be young on the hill, it has several proven players with varsity experience throughout the lineup. Particularly on the infield, these Cougars can rely on senior leadership, and smooth glove play.

Rosey Mejia is a very good defensive catcher, who can also swing the bat well. First baseman Elisa Gassel, Eden King at second and Robin Ball at third provide the Cougars with a solid fielding team that will cohere the club when the pressure mounts in late season games.

"I think the best thing we're doing right now is paying good attention to situations," Barker said. "Offensively and defensively we haven't always made the play, but we've been aware of what play should be made. That indicates we have a solid foundation to work from."

The one area in which the Cougars have struggled this year is consistently putting runners across the plate with a hit. Other than the 21 runs they mustered earlier in the year against Richmond, this club has not yet strung several hits together very often.

Even when it scored 10 in a 12-10 loss to El Cerrito, many of the runs were the result of walks and errors.

"We need to work on our hitting," Barker said simply. "It can be hard in this league because you go from facing someone very fast to someone slow, so you can't get your timing down well."

Albany is looking to have its season timed well by finishing fast. Beginning with the Piedmont game, it plays five of its last six at home. That could serve as the last push the Cougars need to land in the playoffs.

Shoeless Jackets' coach walks tall

By Mac Montandon

While watching her team play lacrosse last Thursday, Berkeley's lacrosse coach Carrie Buttrick kept removing her shoes.

Looking off her clogs, Buttrick more swiftly roam the sidelines, gaining a better angle on the action.

What she saw was a young team fall for the second time this year to a deeper, more experienced Wildcat club, this time 11-4, but she also

ought to make her want to sound for a while, building her into a solid, successful team.

Really want to come back next year and build on this one," the coach said recently. "It depends on where I get a teaching-

license. Buttrick has already an excellent teaching job with the Yellowjackets, beginning with fundamentals of catching for her younger players.

She inherited a team which had defeated last season, seven significant talents have graduated from that squad.

Buttrick now fields a team that has three freshmen who only picked up a stick for the first time two months ago. Unlike most coaches, however, Buttrick welcomes the challenge of developing young players.

It's so nice to have so many young players who are very athletic," she said. "Last year there were no freshmen on the team, and it's difficult to build a program like that."

This year's Jackets start first-year players Naomi Coffman, Julie Ganes and goalie Karin Buttrick says Hilton possesses remarkable skills in the net, someone who has never played lacrosse.

Against St. I (4-1) last week, Buttrick made several tough stops to keep a game that threatened to be one-sided, close until the third period.

In a loss to St. I left Berkeley at the Northern California Girls Lacrosse League, but it continued signs of improving over the season in the Western States Tournament held in Santa Cruz.

The team went 2-2 in shortened games Saturday and Sunday, and Buttrick said that the trip did the trick, both in its play between teams, and in the strengthening of an already close team.

"This weekend we really came together," Buttrick said. "I knew we were in good shape, I made sure that, but if you can't catch it doesn't matter. We're really committed, and we're having fun."

In the mid-season news, a trio of players have begun to kick-start

See COACH on page 26



Jackets' Deonna Sayles, left, had 6 rebs., teammate Charika Davis grabbed 3 in Bay Bridge Classic.



File

Davis, Sayles show Yellowjackets' off

By John Gardella

SAN FRANCISCO - Yes, Shavaki Jackson, the wonderfully talented center for the Berkeley High girls basketball team, was instrumental in guiding the Yellowjackets to the Division I state title. And no, the Cal-bound senior wasn't a one-player show.

Last weekend, Berkeley's depth and talent were evidenced by the fact that two of Jackson's Jackets teammates played for the East Bay in the 1997 Bay Bridge Classic. Jackson was nowhere to be found.

Charika Davis and Deonna Sayles joined 18 other Bay Area players at the University of San Francisco's Memorial Gymnasium

last Saturday night. The West Bay came out on top, 77-67, but both Berkeley players contributed to the East Bay's cause. Sayles, who averaged nine points a game in her senior year for the Jackets, started at forward for the east. Sayles finished the game with five points, six rebounds, an assist and a steal.

Davis, a 10-point per game performer at Berkeley this past season, played on the second unit, scoring two points and pulling down three boards.

Jackson, who is headed to Cal in the fall will play, however, in the Academics & Athletics High School Basketball Showcase at St. Mary's College in Moraga Saturday night (see related story).

Shaw, Cook, Jackson in academics hoop game

St. Mary's High's Daniel Shaw and Brendan Cook will join 24 other Bay Area basketball players Saturday in the third annual Academics and Athletics High School Basketball Showcase to be held at St. Mary's College in Moraga. The brainchild of Chris Rivers, girls basketball coach at St. Joseph High, the all-star game selects boys and girls players based on academic as well as athletic accomplishments. Players are chosen by coaches.

The girls game will start at

5:30 p.m., followed by a 3-point shootout and slam dunk competition, and the boys game at 8 p.m. Partial proceeds from the games go to the Academics & Athletics Scholarship Fund.

This year's participants on the boys side include San Francisco Player of the Year Ali Thomas and Sacred Heart's LyRyan Russell, both of whom have committed to the University of San Francisco.

Shavaki Jackson, the Cal-bound player who led the Berkeley High Yellowjackets to the Division I championship, will



St. Mary's Brendan Cook

play in the girls game. The 6-foot-3 Shaw averaged 16 points and seven rebounds for St. Mary's while the 6-8 Cook had averages of 14 points and 11 rebounds. Shaw carries a 3.4 GPA and Cook is at 3.0.

Jackson, a 6-4 center with a 3.0 GPA, led the Division I state champion Berkeley Yellowjackets with 22 points and 12 rebounds per game. Jackson will be playing for Cal next year.



St. Mary's Daniel Shaw

Twenty-two past Showcase participants are currently competing at Division I, II, or NAIA programs, including St. Mary's Nate Frapp, a member of NAIA Brigham Young-Hawaii.

In the last two games, the combined GPA for the boys has been 3.0. The girls average has been 3.45.

For more information, call 288-4247.

— John Gardella



Berkeley's Shavaki Jackson

Grades Count in this Hoop All-Star Game

Academics & Athletics Prep Showcase
Girls All-Stars 5:30 p.m.
Boys All-Stars 8 p.m.
Saturday, April 19
St. Mary College, Moraga

Gauchos baseball finally the Gauchos

El Cerrito's club is healthy just in time

By John Gardella

When the El Cerrito High baseball team traveled to Encinal Wednesday to take on the top-ranked team in the area, the Gauchos weren't the same team that started the season with a miserable 2-10 record.

Winners of their last two, the Gauchos were healthy for the first time this season. Donny Davis, the team's star pitcher and EC's starter against the Jets, hadn't been scored

on in 14 innings of Alameda-Contra Costa Athletic League play. Evan Lurie, the team's leading hitter, had missed the last three games with a sprained ankle, but was in the lineup against Encinal.

In other words, over the last week the Gauchos started resembling the team coach Dennis Abel thought he had.

"We're finally healthy," Abel said. "Our arms seem to be in shape. Earlier, we were going with just two pitchers. And we're finally starting to hit the ball."

After losing 10 of their first 12 games, including four straight extra

inning affairs, the Gauchos beat Piedmont and Albany last week. Davis picked up the win against Piedmont, 6-0, throwing a complete-game shutout.

Jarriar White handled Albany and the Gauchos scored double-digit runs in a 11-2 blowout.

Prior to his last two starts Davis had struggled, due to a bruised muscle suffered during the basketball season. "Donny's a battler," said Abel.

Offensively, even with Lurie on the bench, the Gauchos have started hitting. Brandis Langston won him-

See GAUCHOS on page 26



Evan Lurie, left, is back after an ankle injury; Donny Davis' bruised muscle is recovered.



File

Gauchos drown St. Mary's, Holy Names

B. Lam, B. Wong, Habdas, Shimada lead EC

El Cerrito High's strong swim team flexed its muscle April 8 at its first league meet of the season. Swimming against Alameda-Contra Costa Athletic League rivals St. Mary's and Holy Names, the Gauchos won big in the varsity boys and girls

events, and the junior varsity boys divisions, and narrowly missed a full sweep with the JV girls coming up two points short.

Led by sophomore Bryan Lam and senior Ben Wong and seniors Michelle Habdas and Tia

Shimada for the boys and girls, respectively, EC turned in 17 first place finishes in varsity competition.

"The swimming was outstanding," said Gauchos coach Blythe Lucero. "The swimmers are doing best times across the board."

Several of EC's swimmers are in good position to qualify for North Coast over the next several weeks. The Gauchos have four more dual meets or double dual meets before the ACCAL meet early next month, and NC at the end of May.



Bryan Lam led El Cerrito varsity boys in ACCAL meet

File '95

Cal

CAL DIGEST

Baseball team breaks 10-game losing streak

Cal's baseball team defeated No. 12 USC, 7-5, Sunday at Evans Diamond. Bolstered by the strong hitting of Ivan Lewis, Brian Oliver and Juan Hernandez — and the outstanding fielding of Curtis Johnson — the Bears were able to hold on for the win over the Trojans.

Cal (16-27, 3-18 Pac-10, Six-Pac), which had entered the three-game series with a 10-game conference losing streak, was able to win two of three against SC. The Bears defeated the Trojans, 3-2, Friday and lost, 5-2, Saturday.

Sunday, senior third baseman Lewis got Cal on the scoreboard first in the second with a three-run homer off SC starter Scott Henderson. It was Lewis' only second home run of his college career. The Bears were able to score another run in the third on a passed ball by Trojans' catcher Eric Munson, scoring Oliver and giving Cal a 4-0 lead.

SC came back in the fifth on a three-run double by Greg Walbridge to make the score 4-3.

Cal was able to muster three more runs in the sixth, with the big hits being Johnson's RBI single on a bunt and Lewis' two-run single up the middle.

The Trojans were able to come back again when Jason Brown hit a two-run homer off Cal reliever Jim Vorhis in the seventh. Vorhis (3-3) was able to get out of the seventh, and pitched a perfect eighth to salvage the win.

Freshman Jon Cuccias earned his second save of the season by pitching the ninth allowing one hit.

The Bears received a solid pitching effort from freshman starter Brad Steele (4.3 innings, five hits, three runs, three walks). Lewis finished the day 2-for-4 with a career high five RBI. Oliver was 2-for-4 and Hernandez was 3-for-3. Johnson had several long running catches in center field, including a shot hit by SC's Wes Rachels to leadoff the ninth.

The Bears travel to Arizona State

for a three-game series beginning Friday.

Women's water polo to host WRQT

The No. 3 women's water polo team (23-6) fell to No. 1 ranked and defending national champion UCLA, 8-6, Sunday in the championship match of the Mountain Pacific Sports Federation Tournament in Santa Barbara.

Cal and UCLA were tied, 6-6, going into the final period, but the Bruins scored twice in the fourth quarter for the win.

In the championship match, the Bears were led by Alisa von Hartitzsch's three goals.

Cal reached the finals by defeating UC Santa Barbara, 13-3; losing to UCLA, 10-4, and defeating Stanford, 5-4, in the semifinal.

Following the championship game, von Hartitzsch, who scored 11 goals in the tournament and has an impressive 89 goals of the season, was named MPSF Northern Division Player of the Year, while teammate Evi Schuller was named

Goalie of the Year. Maureen O'Toole was named Coach of the Year.

The Bears will next host the Western Regional Qualifying Tournament, April 25-27 at Spieker Aquatic Complex. The top seven teams from that tournament automatically qualify for the national championships, May 8-11, in Ann Arbor, Mich.

Last season, Cal gave UCLA its only loss of the season in the finals of the WRQT. The Bruins' only loss this season was a 4-3 loss to the Bears, Feb. 15 at the UC San Diego Invitational.

Women's netters beat Arizonas

On April 11, the women's tennis team defeated No. 8 Arizona State, 5-4, in Berkeley. The Bears picked up big wins from Nos. 1-3 including Amanda Augustus' 6-2, 6-3 upset of 18th-ranked Reka Csereeny. Francesca La'o and Knox each needed three sets before emerging victoriously and Curran added a win at No. 5 and the Bears

entered doubles play with a 4-2 advantage. La'o and Knox sealed the win for Cal with a 8-4 win at No. 2 doubles.

The No. 11 Bears swept 14th ranked University of Arizona, 6-0, the following day improving to 14-6, 4-4 in the Pac-10 Southern Division on the year. Augustus picked up her second win over a Top 10 player in the last 10 days as she defeated No. 5 Vicky Maes in play at No. 1 singles.

La'o also picked up a strong win with her straight set victory over No. 35 Karen Goldstein. Because the outcome had been decided at the end of singles competition, doubles matches were not played.

Men gymnasts in NCAA's

The No. 2 men's gymnastics team travels to the NCAA Championships April 17-19 in Iowa City, Iowa. There, the Bears butt heads with Ohio State, Oklahoma, Stanford, Penn State, and Iowa.

Coming out of obscurity in 1996 to finish as the runner-up to the Buckeyes at last year's national

championships, the Bears have been on a mission to prove that the nation and get it on.

Men's tennis trophies

The men's tennis team continues to fight through adversity as the season closes. The Bears (9-10) 10 Southern Division turned mixed results, hovering near the .500 mark.

Most recently, the pair of matches on Arizona. April 11, drew even at 9-9 with a 4-3 victory over Arizona suffering a 4-3 against Arizona State following day.

Through it all, the Bears emerged as one of the consistent performers, capturing five of six matches.

1997 Jackets Baseball Schedule

April 18 California*
April 23 at Livermore*
April 25 at San Ramon*
April 30 Amador Valley*
May 2 California*
May 7 at California*
May 9 Livermore*
May 14 San Ramon*
May 16 Amador Valley*
May 21 at Monte Vista*
May 23 California*
*EBAL

THE WINE FILE

ALAN GOLDFARB

This is a glass that is more than half full

After all these years I've just learned that no matter how deep a whiff I took of the wine in my glass, nor how much effort I put into swirling and sloshing, I've never enjoyed the wine as I could have.

I'm now spoiled for the rest of my life, and I'll never drink wine again the way I drank wine from Georg Riedel's \$25 Pinot Noir glass.

I recently had this sophisticated, erudite, handsome, and somewhat stuck-up Austrian, whose family has been making glass since 1756, as a guest on my radio show.

Riedel's company makes gorgeously thin, long-stemmed glasses specifically for individual varieties of wine. There is a glass for sauvignon blanc. There's a glass for chardonnay, and another for cabernet.

Pooh, pooh, you might be saying. A glass is a glass. You pour the wine in, you swirl it around like you know what you're doing, you sniff it like some wiseguy, and you kick it around in your mouth as if you're playing pinball.

Not with Georg Riedel's glasses. Not at seven bucks a pop (for the cheapest glasses), all the way up to the \$80 glasses only pinball wizards can afford.

So, when I invited Riedel to come on my show (Saturdays, noon to 1 p.m., KEGG 88.1 FM, plug, plug), I told his P.R. flack I was going to bring my glasses to the studio and compare them to Georg's.

See WINE on page 27



Jeff Lindquist

Harmon gives up the ghost; ground is broken for Haas Pavilion

Cal basketball players Michael Stewart, far right, and Kenyon Jones, hand a basketball net to Evelyn Haas, as outgoing Cal chancellor Chang-Lin Tien looks on. The occasion was the groundbreaking ceremonies at Harmon Gym last Wednesday, as the school prepares to tear down Harmon and build a 12,000 seat facility, to be called the Haas Pavilion, which is scheduled to be ready in two years. Evelyn Haas is the widow of Walter Haas, whose family seeded the project with a gift of \$10 million.



Albany tennis tourney mixes and then matches

The City of Albany Recreation Department hosted a mixed doubles tennis tournament last weekend. A total of 17 teams participated. There were two divisions 7.0 and 8.0. The winners of the first division were Bob Scherer and his daughter Cori Bertucio, top left. Runners up in that division were Jean Wong and Chandler Lai, top right. Winners of the 7.0 consolation division were Phuong Le and Duong Tran. Shirlee Watkins and Alex Whang won the 8.0 division, while the runners up were Angel Balaioing and Rita Trachuk. Winners of the 8.0 consolation division were Beverly Strickland and Denui Meals, bottom right. Also pictured are Cindy Podren and Jim Seid, bottom, left.

Coach

Continued from page 25

Berkeley's game in an attempt to accelerate the process of improving the younger players for subsequent seasons.

Co-captains Sarah Schooley and Kai Ouye and attacker Safiya Moore control the action for the Jackets from endline to endline.

Schooley continually circles the opposition's goal, looking for a cutter — often Moore. Michelle Charpentier or center Claudia Sims. When none appears open, she has the ability to penetrate for a shot. Twice against St.I. Schooley twisted her way past a defender from behind the Wildcat goal, then delivered scores with a no-look, behind-the-back shot.

Over the weekend, Moore exploded on the offensive end, scoring six times in one contest and three in another. Her battering of the back of the goal prompted

Buttrick to announce much when Safiya Moore game, we do well.

Ouye, for her part, done something twice her coach can't recall seen before. After making check, the speedy defender raced the length of the two goals in separate.

Last Thursday, Ouye the ball from a Wildcat her own territory only to the other direction for.

Following Ouye from the sideline was whose bare feet crunched the turf of Berkeley's. Clearly doing whatever enhance her performance.

Buttrick's example taking to her young Saturday the Jackets Robert Louis Stevens Monterey in hopes of coach even more step.

Gauchos

Continued from page 25

self a spot in the outfield and promptly went 4-for-5 in last week's games. Skyler Turtle also had four hits.

"It's nice when you lose your leading hitter (Lurie) and can still

score runs," Abel said sign."

The Gauchos also a error-free defense last week. "Through the losing sell the kids on the were playing good clubing with them," Abel

Jackie Shrieve Cal Varsity assistant

Stephanie Shrieve, Berkeley High, and head coach of the 1994 girls volleyball team named an assistant volleyball coach at Cal.

Shrieve, 26, a former Cal State Fullerton player, has been the head coach for Bear Junior Volleyball Club two seasons. She was coach and assistant coach of Costa Mesa and head coach of the num Volleyball Club.

Shrieve was a four-time winner at Berkeley High, captain for two years of the squad.

She is Berkeley's all-time leader with 3,388, and in career service aces in career digs (784) and career block assists (159).

"I'm very happy that I'm joining our staff as head coach Sue will add a lot of enthusiasm and knowledge to our program. She provides a good balance to our staff."

Albany - Berkeley Girls Softball League

by Michael Blake

Traffic was halted on Solano Avenue on Saturday to make way for one of the true traditions of spring: the annual parade of Little League and softball stars. Following the haunting tunes of the bagpipers leading the parade, the players of the Albany-Berkeley Girls Softball League (ABGSL) showed up in resplendent colors, carrying banners, wearing fresh uniforms, and looking ready for some serious sports action.

They didn't have to wait long. Scarcely did the parade start at Cornell School when the girls trundled off to various ballparks to take on their league opponents in the some of the best ABGSL games of the season.

YOUNGER DIVISION

Nolo Press Sharks 30 Mason-McDuffie Mighty Ducks 11

The Mighty Ducks were led by multiple line-drive hits from Carla Collins and Santelia Rose. Karina Piser and Judith Joy made some outstanding defensive plays for the Ducks.

The Nolo Sharks defense was inspired by several brilliant plays from Olivia Stutz, including a rare unassisted

double play. The Sharks' offensive juggernaut was powered by cagey veterans Emily Silverstein (4 doubles, 8 RBI), Julia Kessler (several hits, including a triple), and Mary Stephens (who crushed a shot so far it hit a fan in the outfield). The Sharks' offense proved too much for the Ducks in the season opener.

MIDDLE DIVISION

Andronico's All Stars 18 Five Star Video Generals 11

The All Stars came out smoking, with 2- and 3-run homers in the 1st inning from Danielle Moore and Alythea Morrell. In the bottom of the inning, the Generals responded with RBI singles from Alyse Ritvo and Alana Kopke. They then held the All Stars to 1 run in the 2nd, thanks to Lani Powell's 3 putouts at 2nd.

But in the 3rd, Amy Haven's RBI single brought the mighty Moore back to the plate, this time with the bases loaded and 2 out. She hit a powerful grand slam homer to center, putting the Andronico's team comfortably ahead.

The Five Star team, undaunted, came back with some defensive gems, notably Aron Feingold's unassisted double play (and 3 putouts) in the 4th and Hannah Hausauer's shoestring catch and snap throw to 3rd, a double play which ended the 5th.

In the final inning, Emily Niles hit a 2-RBI triple for the Stars but the Generals came back with 6, but it was too late.

On The Beam 20 Tiddlywinks 16

Tiddlywinks' Laurel Wirth started the hitting with a double, and as a pitcher in the bottom of the inning, stopped a hard-hit grounder and threw to 1st base for an out. Mira Bullen, batting for On the Beam, hit a blistering triple.

In the 2nd, Tiddlywinks got lots of hitting from Mackenzie Israel Trummel, Elise Priewe, Lydia Raya, and Frances Tompkins. On the Beam bounced back with a powerful homer by Sophie Simon-Ortiz, and strong batting by Sarah Adams, until Priewe held onto an infield pop-up that seemed to come out of the clouds, making the 3rd out.

Beamer Brianna Myers made a spectacular 3rd out in the 4th. The ball popped out of her glove and rolled across the back of her shoulders, but then she caught it again.

Tiddlywinks started the final inning with stand-up doubles from Raya and Priewe. Raya continued her strong play defensively, catching a glove-burning out at 3rd. To finish out the last inning, OTB Rebecca Schliff slugged a hard grounder and did a spectacular slide into first, kicking dirt into the faces of 3 opposing players. Next, her teammate, Stacey Ann

Stewart, hit a hard line drive for a 2-RBI triple.

Salon Salon Sliding Slammers 15 Vivian Lopez Mighty Molars 8

Through the first 3 innings both teams displayed stellar defense. For the Sliding Slammers, Sara McEvoy threw out a Mighty Molar with a strong throw from 2nd in the 1st, and Danielle Sinclair later made a nice catch of a line drive at the hot corner. In the 4th, Emma Kemp snagged a line drive and stepped on the bag at 1st to complete a nice double play.

With the score locked, 2-2 after 3, it appeared that defensive gems like these would define the game, but then Slammers exploded for 6 runs each in the 4th and 5th. The charge was led by Sinclair's leadoff single, followed by hits from Kemp, Jay Teng, Vivienne Carlsen, and Rachael Castro.

In the 6th, Carlsen made an unassisted double play at 1st on a screaming line drive that seemed sure to be an extra-base hit. In the bottom of the inning, Salon rapped out 8 consecutive hits, sealing the victory.

OLDER DIVISION

Autumn Press 6 Nelson Meyer & Ung Bandits 0

Joanna Hoch started the game with some hot pitching, striking

out 5 Autumn Press batters and catching a fly ball in the first 2 innings.

Kier Wallis struck out 6 batters in the 3rd and 4th to keep the score down and Sara Corrigan-Gibbs singled in the 1st and 4th and threw some hot and heavy strikes in the 5th.

Despite their great pitching and some defensive gems, the Bandits finally fell to the Press offensive attack.

Hans Stahlschmidt Rebels 14 Red Oak Realty Cardinals 4

The Rebels offense started strong in the 1st with singles by Meredith Williams and Kaleen Patterson, who scored. In the 4th, hits by Williams, Joe Warner and Caitlin Drulis (with a towering drive to left field) led to 2 more runs.

The 5th was highlighted by a seeing-eye single to short by Rachel Schlessinger, followed by back-to-back singles by Bailey Nichols and Kate Gorman, with Makenda Burroughs-Miller stealing 2nd and 3rd, and scoring.

Strong pitching by Drulis (4 strikeouts) and Warner was assisted by solid defensive plays by Rebecca Hand, Patterson, and Schlessinger. In the 5th, the duo of Patterson at 2nd to Williams at 1st shut down 2 Cardinals, with pitcher Drulis catching a pop-up to end the inning.

For the Cardinals, 3 runs scored

in the 2nd with base hits by Rachel Heavner, Elizabeth Murphy and Zoe Hitchner. Amia Grashin hit a line drive to 3rd in the 5th and Alice Brugger hit a double to drive in 2 runs.

Defensively for the Cardinals, Kyle Kemp pitched 2 beautiful innings, giving away only 2 walks with 6 strikeouts. Emily McCullough caught a pop fly in the 4th and tagged out a runner attempting to steal 3rd in the 5th. Ariel Totino-Pearson stopped a tough ball at short and made the final out in the 4th.

Jessie Young Construction Angels 3 We Be Bop 2

Starting Angels pitcher Laura Weitzman worked her way out of a jam in the 1st, striking out the last batter with a runner on 3rd. Elizabeth Carey of We Be Bop then struck out the other side. Early in the game, the Angels' Mia Arakaki singled and then stole 2nd, 3rd and home.

In the 4th, the We Be Bop pitcher struck out the side, but also hit 3 batters and walked 2, allowing 2 runs.

Rebecca Karchy pitched the last 2 innings for the Angels and struck out 5 of the 6 batters she faced.

Wine

Continued from page 26

He told me that would be just fine, but I should fax her a list of wines I wanted to use.

He said he didn't want me to get cheap wines. "Well, I responded, I'm not going to pour a \$50 wine for an event. I've got my pride,

he relented. Just make sure, said, the wines are over \$15. I liked to taste good wines in glasses." Georg likes to use his own glasses to taste. "Burgundy" — now comes the wine.

I gathered my wines and anxiously for Georg. I had a corkscrew ready.

Here came Georg, carrying his own corkscrew, and his own glass of wine.

His guy's stacking the deck. Well, Georg turned out to be charming, although he had the microphone. Oh, he had just went on the radio when I introduced his wine, saying "... and these aren't inexpensive, to be with your everyday quaff." Georg took offense at that,

immediately stating that "our glasses are not expensive ... it's quite affordable for everyone who is enjoying seriously (sic) wine ... The better the wine, the more important the glass is ..."

Georg also dismissed my questions regarding the fact that his glasses contain almost 25 percent lead. He explained that lead really isn't harmful under these circumstances and that "this is a dead issue."

But these are trifles after one tastes a wine from one of Riedel's glasses. He poured his bottle of 1994 Robert Mondavi Carneros Pinot Noir (\$26) into my glass, then poured the wine into his "Burgundy" glass, who's bowl is large enough to hold almost a full bottle. Of course, one would be foolhardy to pour an entire bottle into a glass because one's nose, after sniffing, would come up wet and red.

My glass, which I thought was a nice glass, and was made in the former Czechoslovakia, showed the pinot to have pretty aromas, but it was somewhat closed and wasn't giving up much bouquet.

And then there was Georg's glass. The aromas were filling the tiny, hot studio, with smells of

lilacs and cherries. By the time I got it to my nose, which was right up against the mike so that my listeners could hear how a professional sniffs his wine (audio aids, we call it in the radio biz), fruit and flowers were jumping out of that vessel.

And the flavors. Oh my. It was as if, just a moment before, I hadn't tasted the same wine. This pinot was luscious, like velvet on the tongue. Whereas the same wine from my little glass tasted of the young tannins, the wine from Georg's glass was as smooth and soft and perfumed as a baby's tush.

To make the point pointier, Georg poured the pinot into his

sauvignon blanc and bordeaux glasses and handed them to me. This radio pro took a sip from the S.B. glass and began to cough, right there on the air.

Not because it was a different wine entirely — hardly any aromas, acidic, harsh flavors — but because I was startled at the difference.

I was convinced. I was stunned. The only regret I have is that from now on, I'll never experience a wine the same way again. When I pick up my Czech glass, I'm going to lament what I'll be missing.

At least I didn't break one of Georg's glasses.

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MABI'S Garden, quality childcare. Art classes, cozy home. Great outdoors. Infant/ Toddler. Mabi, 530-8353. #100251593.

TO PLACE A CLASSIFIED

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725 1 BED. APT. RENTALS
Oakland & Piedmont

\$995 ONE bedroom, near Piedmont Walk-in closet, balcony, fireplace, dishwasher, garbage disposal \$30-1300

\$695 PIEDMONT Avenue Piedmont border location. Good kitchen. Three Covered garage. Laundry \$65-0174

LUXURY LIVING

285 Lee St. Spacious 1 bedroom. Quiet and quality, modern convenience, rack, walk-in, A/EK Best Adams Point location. Must See! Call 465-3046

\$725-860 CHARMING, large apartments, great location, hardwood floors, appliances. Must see 445-7500

\$725 BEAUTIFUL 1 bedroom in great turn-of-the-century building. Tons of storage and sunlight. Hardwood floors. Most utilities included. Cable. Near shop and transportation. \$39-1329

\$725 DIAMOND Park. Sunny 1 bedroom. Hardwood floors. Fireplace, laundry. Off-street parking. Near transportation. 420-8963

\$730 ROCKRIDGE 1 bedroom. Top floor, bay view, coin laundry. Broadway/Maria #11082-B. Homefinders 549-6450

ATTRACTIVE BUILDING

Spacious, quiet, clean 1 bedroom. Cathedral ceiling, new carpets, garage, balcony. 465-5854

\$750 GARDEN apartment, new carpet, paint, off Lakeshore. 655-5007

\$750 MONTCLAIR, quiet in-law, garden patio, five minutes from Redwood Park, easy walk to village. Plus utilities. No pets. Non-smoking. 420-8442

\$775 GLENVIEW 1 bedroom. Large kitchen/living room, sunny bay windows. 4353 Park Blvd 351-5175 after 5 p.m.

\$795 TRESTLE Glen, Charming 1 bedroom, immaculate flat. Quiet street. Close to transportation. 415-324-8057

\$850 ADAMS Point, small quiet building, 1 bedroom, newly new, walk-in closet, large porch overlooking courtyard, secure parking, alarm system, laundry, 510-832-4071 evenings, 415-436-0566 days

\$850 FUNKY lower cottage. Hardwoods, 2 baths, tile, garage. Pet's 2908 Park Blvd 420-1676

\$950 UPPER Grand 1+ bedroom, fireplace, hardwoods, appliances, laundry. Near transportation, stores. Call okay 601-1656

\$975 OLDER, beautiful 1 bedroom, hardwood floors, parking, laundry, park view. 473 Ellita. Bellevue next to Lake. 832-1888 ext. 34

\$975 ONE bedroom, condo, appliances, fireplace, washer/dryer, view, deck, central heat, carpets, drapes. Upper Kaiser Ave. area. 700 Canyon Oaks. HMC, 654-4854

FREE first month's rent. Large remodeled 1 bedroom, new kitchen/bath. \$540. Near Highland Hospital and Highway I-580. 261-3487

726 2 BED. APT. RENTALS
Oakland & Piedmont

\$660 NORTH Oakland Big kitchen (no living room) 439 49th. Hardwood. Cat negotiable. BART 655-5890

\$675 TWO bedrooms, 1 bath in duplex with garage. New carpet, central heat. Includes water and garbage. No pets. Drive by 316 MacArthur. Agent May 531-7010

\$675 TWO bedroom in great neighborhood. 634 Oakland Ave. near Bay Vista and Grand Ave., building under management. 464-4621

UPPER HARRISON

\$729 Harrison. Cozy 2 bedroom near Grand, Piedmont Ave. Deck, parking, water, garage and heat. Fresh carpet and paint. Call 531-6969

\$725 TWO bedroom, modern secure building, Laurel District on Mayfield. Dishwasher, deck, off-street parking. Call Brett, 531-7575 ext. 351

\$750-875 EXCELLENT Piedmont border location. Spacious, sunny, new carpets. Private balcony. Parking, laundry. 429-1242

\$750 CHARMING, Mills College area. Trees, garage, carpet, laundry. Cat okay. Near freeways, transit. 562-8953

\$750 PIEDMONT Ave. and Grand Ave. convenient, 2 bedroom, 1400 sq. ft., Victorian flat, hardwood, formal and casual dining, cook-top, no pets. 654-7685

\$775 OAKLAND Hills, quiet, 2 bedroom, walk-in closet, carpet, garage, laundry, 4316 Rilea Way. (510) 638-1575

\$800 SPACIOUS 2 bedroom, 2 baths, fireplace, patio, garage. Rose Garden area. 653-4447

\$825 HOMEY! Spacious! Immaculate Newly Painted Redwood/Kitchen. Quiet Back Patio. Call/Agent. Off Lincoln. 635-4410

\$825 TWO bedroom, near Grand Lake Theater, new paint and carpeting, with exterior balcony. 451-3284

\$830 MORMON Temple area. Large, sunny, 1 bath. Hardwood floors, gas stove, new kitchen. 482-5077

CENTRAL ADAMS POINT

\$850 Waverly. Spacious 2 bedroom. Elevator, coin laundry. Fresh carpet and paint. Call 465-0969

\$850 301 JAYNE, near Lake Merritt 2 bedrooms, 1 1/2 baths. First floor with patio, parking and new carpet. Agent 523-1166

\$850 CLOUSE to Piedmont Avenue, small Victorian building. Top unit. Hardwoods, fireplace, dishwasher, parking, laundry. 95 Moss Ave. 510-339-1451

\$850 PENTHOUSE near Lake, secure 2 bedrooms, parking, patio. New paint. Carpet. View. Deposit 452-3255

\$850 PIEDMONT border, 2 bath, spacious top floor, A/EK, carpet, laundry, parking. 3815 Harrison St. 569-0165

ATTRACTIVE DUPLEX

Two bedroom, 1 bath. Large living, separate dining. Borden Way. No pets, non-smoking, available May 8th. 510-653-0227; 415-435-2544

NEAR PIEDMONT AVE.

Large 2 bedroom, 2 bath, balcony, parking. 95 Linda Ave. 841-5979

\$925 CONDOMINIUM near Piedmont. Cozy, architecturally exciting, privacy deck, dishwasher. 473 Jean (Santa Clara). 272-9512

\$950 TWO bedroom, 2 bath, fireplace, carpet, freshly painted, secure parking, laundry. Ready for move-in. 530-1005

\$985 GLENVIEW duplex, 2 bedrooms. Washer/dryer. Dishwasher. Garage. Nice yard. 482-1662

\$1000 CHARMING 2 bedroom, 2 bath. 1250 sq. ft. townhouse near Mormon Temple. Cathedral ceiling, fireplace, balcony, hill view, greenhouse window, plantation shutters, washer/dryer, dishwasher, garage. 283-5301

\$1150 GLENVIEW Victorian, huge attic 2 bedroom penthouse, parking, laundry. Call okay. All utilities. 883-1416

\$1245 TWO baths, Piedmont area, sunny upper, 3923 Harrison, new carpets, verticals, 5 large closets, 1150 plus 125 ft. balcony, the kitchen. No dog. 420-0408

\$1500 MAGNIFICENT renovated Victorian Fire station with brass pole, 2 bedrooms, 1550 sq. ft., laundry, parking, live-work. 339-9825 ext. 242

727 3+ BED. APT. RENTALS
Oakland & Piedmont

\$1200 MORMON Temple. Remodeled 3 bedrooms, 2 baths. New carpet, paint. 2925 Carmel. Open April 15. 6-p.m. 268-9028

COTTAGES FOR RENT

741 Oakland & Piedmont

\$550 SMALL 1 bedroom. Recessed/ceramic. Carpets, appliances, pine trees. 830 East 23rd Street. 465-9718, weekdays

\$625 PRETTY, quiet, 1+ bedroom cottage. Laurel District above MacArthur. Pets okay. May 1st. 531-9840

\$875 PIEDMONT, small, charming, private 1 bedroom. Must see. Includes utilities, washer/dryer. 454-5934

HOMES FOR RENT

750 Albany & Kensington

ALBANY, Kensington, El Cerrito; two, three, four bedroom cottages, flats, and houses. Berkeley Connection, 845-7821

\$1500 ALBANY 3+ bedrooms, 2 baths remodeled, detached studio, fireplace, yard. Talbot #11286-B. Homefinders 549-6450

Berkeley

753 2 BED. HOME RENTALS
Berkeley

\$1350 NORTH Berkeley duplex. High ceilings, dining, refrig, hardwood, parking. Rose/Henry. #11184-B. Homefinders 549-6450



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754 3 BED. HOME RENTALS
Berkeley

\$1800 SPACIOUS, traditional 3 bedrooms, 2 baths. North Berkeley Hills home near Solano. 236-8912

\$2100 HILLS. Modern. Three baths, view, fireplace, deck, pet's. Captain Coast #11268-B. Homefinders 549-6450

\$2500-875 EXCELLENT Piedmont border location. Spacious, sunny, new carpets. Private balcony. Parking, laundry. 429-1242

\$750 CHARMING, Mills College area. Trees, garage, carpet, laundry. Cat okay. Near freeways, transit. 562-8953

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762 3 BED. HOME RENTALS
Oakland & Piedmont

\$2000 SPACIOUS Grizzly Peak home with great view, 2 baths, fireplace, deck, carpet. Other Oakland Hills homes available. 834-9815, Monday-Friday, 9-5.

\$2100 HILLER Highlands townhouse. Best Bay view, den, decks, patio. Immaculate. C/P/SELECT 339-1642

\$2100 RIDGEMONT, Oakland Hills, upscale 2 1/2 baths, view, fireplace, decks, garden, double garage. 510-636-1963

763 4+ BED. HOME RENTALS
Oakland & Piedmont

\$1800 RANCH-STYLE home. 4 bedrooms, 3 baths. Fireplace. Fenced yard, garage. Near Oakland Zoo. 465-9064

\$2150 UPSCALE Montclair Hills, 3 bedrooms plus. Spectacular view. Deck, yard, steamer. Near Village. (510) 482-9780

\$2400 RIDGEMONT 4 bedrooms, 3 baths, family room, 3 car garage, no pets. Agent 451-1184

\$2500/Best Offer: 5 bedrooms, 2 baths, nump. No dogs. Available May 1. 339-0400

\$2700 OAKLAND Hills, 1 year old English Tudor, 4 bedroom, 3 bath plus study. Deck, yard, vaulted ceilings, 2 car garage, 2700 sq. ft., excellent condition. Available May 15. Rental Solutions. 510-649-8660

SHARE RENTALS

771 Alameda

\$325 ONE bedroom in 2 bedroom apartment with quiet professional female. Non-smoking, no drugs. 510-769-8211

\$450 THREE bedroom, 2 1/2 bath, lovely home to share. HBI, washer/dryer, fireplace. 521-7067

773 Berkeley

\$400 PLUS utilities, room in Claremont Hills, kitchen/laundry privileges. Parking. Available May 1st. 845-1941

\$400 PRIVATE downtown, large room with separate bath, in family home near Claremont Hill. Includes yard, kitchen, laundry. 549-3716

\$1000 (TWO room) \$600 (1 room). Share a Mansion With Bay views, 2 professional women. Near Kensington Village. Davis 524-3238

774 El Cerrito & North

\$325 FIRST! last. No deposit. Share living, kitchen, bath, washer/dryer. Clean, quiet, pleasant. 236-4267

\$400 RICHMOND Annex furnished 2 bedroom. Includes utilities. Available May 1st. Laundry, parking. 526-9073

\$435 TWO large bedrooms, 1 bath, laundry, garden. Walk to plaza BART. Half utilities. 528-0143

777 Oakland & Piedmont

\$280 MONTCLAIR, room with counter. Separate entrance. Kitchen, laundry. Non-smoking, no pets. 20% utilities. (510) 547-0618

\$350 LAKESHORE area. Share 2 bedroom in fourplex. Laundry, storage. Deposit. One-half utilities. 763-5666

\$350 LAUREL, 4 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath house, yard. Share with 3 others. Washer/dryer. 531-0350

\$355 MONTCLAIR 4 bedroom, 2 bath house, share with 3 others. Washer/dryer, dishwasher. 510-339-3619

\$425 LARGE room in house by Lake. Separate bath, privileges, nonsmoking. Close transportation. 415-773-9251

\$430 ROCKRIDGE. Beautiful, spacious 4 bedroom house. Fireplace, laundry, garden. Share with young professionals. 655-0201

\$450+ HILLS, sunny, woody, private entrance/3rd 3 women/ baby. Decks, fireplace, all conveniences. 339-3685

\$450 SANE, social, open, fun, non-smoking home with built-in porch. Has bedroom. May 1st. 547-3766

\$450 THREE bedroom flat, with one female, Rockridge area, includes utilities, laundry, large yard. 420-5879

\$450 UTILITIES included. Friendly, large, clean, quiet, convenient, decks, fireplace, laundry, no pets, nonsmoking. 655-5699

\$475 MONTCLAIR 3 bedroom, 2 bath house. Hardwoods, fireplace. No more pets. April 15. 338-0138

\$525 UTILITIES included. Near Mills/ Holy Names. Share spacious home with 2 quiet adults, cats. Beautiful yard. Fireplace. Laundry. Security. Non-smoking. No additional pets. 638-8296

\$600/ \$750 MONTCLAIR. Private bath, tanning bed, garage, deck, living room. Contemporary, bay view. 339-3647

\$750 ROOM, own bath, lovely home near Village. Fireplace, laundry, parking, deck. Professional, non-smoking. 339-0655

\$1000 INCLUDES utilities. Large 1 bedroom with family room, large private deck, great view. 420-8775

COMMERCIAL RENTALS

781 Alameda

OFFICES, 2 terrific suites: 900 sq. ft. with private entrance; 2100 sq. ft. with 800 sq. ft. deck located on the water, private entrance, off-street parking. Alameda Marina, 521-1133

WAREHOUSE/Shop, 7500 sq. ft. with 4000 sq. ft. mezzanine. Alameda Marina 521-1133

CITY OF ALAMEDA

Upscale Retailers Wanted: clothing, specialty shops, restaurants, housewares etc. Retail space is available. At Now. Call Jim Carr, Community Development Department, (510) 747-4731.

782 Berkeley & North

2700 sq. ft. to 16,500 sq. ft. ground floor and second floor prime Richmond location for only 38¢ per sq. ft. Industrial gross, plus 1/3. Good freeway access. (415) 391-9260 ext. 304

LARGE warehouse type or showroom: warehouse combo in Prime Richmond location. Good freeway access. Walking distance to BART. High employment area. As low as 30¢ per sq. ft. Tom B. 235-1044

PSYCHOTHERAPY Office in beautiful Victorian. Parking, kitchenette, furnished/unfurnished, full-time/part-time. Carla 843-1366, ext. 54

BUSINESS or retail space, 860 sq. ft., near 4th Street business and shopping area. 527-1101

ALBANY office space, prime location, Solano at Ventura, approximately 500 sq. ft. \$750/month. 525-3637

PART-TIME/ full-time, office space for psychotherapy, wordprocessing, other, quiet, professional use. Near Hemlock Hospital, downtown Berkeley, home environment. 841-1252

LARGE windowed basement office in Victorian. Excellent for psychotherapy, other health professional, artist. Private entrance, bath room. Accessible, parking. \$595 485-9602

SOLANO Avenue, Albany. Upstairs office suite in classic Brown Shingle. Sunny, 650 sq. ft. plus large deck. Quiet, professional/non-retail use. \$1100. 525-5660

BERKELEY, Blake-Shattuck, 2 rooms, pleasant office. Modern building. \$575, maybe less. Parking. Also: nice one room office, \$400. 510-841-0654

OFFICE 800 sq. ft. Bright atmosphere. Telegraph Ave. near UC Berkeley. (510) 444-7000

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Landscape design, tree pruning, maintenance, shrub care, lawn care, etc. 727-9802

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Landscape design, maintenance, shrub care, lawn care, etc. 727-9802

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Handyman services, painting, carpentry, etc. 727-9802

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Handyman services, painting, carpentry, etc. 727-9802

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Home Services

CRABTREE GUTTER
Gutter/cleanout, roof/gutter repairs. Drainage replacement. In area 10 years. Free estimates. Al Crabtree 510-462-8923

TROUBLE With Old Windows? Broken glass, painted shut, sash cords missing? Experienced craftsman at low rates. Call Jim, 786-9454

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ANNE'S TOXIC FREE CLEANING

Organizing Specialist
Professional, meticulous job
Prompt, reliable, affordable

Home/Voice Mail 234-5349

RELIABLE housekeeping. Bonded, experienced, thorough. Licensed. Weekly, bi-weekly, vacancies. References. Marie or Maria, 836-0165

COMPLETE domestic service. Housecleaning, windows, yards, hailing. Mature, reliable couple. References. 527-6306; pager 970-0740

SPOTLESS Housecleaning: Efficient, honest, experienced, references, reasonable. Residential, commercial, offices. Free estimates. Rita, 510-524-1551

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WE DO it all WINDOWS Apartments, houses, commercial. Carpet cleaning, construction clean-up. Reasonable prices. Free estimates. 30 years experience. 547-8767

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Let us help you keep your house clean. For free estimate please call Ivani 510-528-9393. References available.

QUALITY Housecleaning. Experienced with excellent references. Trustworthy, efficient and reliable. Weekly or bi-weekly. Ann 465-4121

VERY DETAILED HOUSECLEANING
6 hours for \$80. Please call 658-9039.

HONEST housecleaning services. Excellent work with good references. We provide own cleaning supplies. Call 932-0388

TRUST'S Housecleaning service, weekly, bi-weekly, once a month and move-outs. Bonded. License 533-0912

VALENCIA'S Complete Cleaning Service. Experienced, excellent references, weekly, bi-monthly, special occasions. Free estimates. Rita, 510-536-0569

HOUSECLEANING, reliable, experienced, all supplies. Weekly, bi-weekly, vacancies. References. Free estimates. 534-9951

PATRICIA'S Housecleaning Service - Fast, neat, dependable. Weekly or every other week. Reasonable rates. Montclair, Piedmont. Insured. 530-8448

Most one stories \$64.95, second/third stories additional cost. Mini-blind cleaning available. 510-223-9781

HOUSECLEANING by local woman. Weekly/bi-weekly. Reasonable rates. Reliable! I'll do it your way! 658-7420

TIERED OF CLEANING?
Let me do it for you and come home to a sparkling clean house 6 years experience, good references. Licensed. Bonded. Free estimates. Call Lisa 883-1747

ESTHER Housecleaning Service. Businesses, homes, apartments. Licensed, insured. 100% guaranteed. Trained Janitor. Senior Discount. 654-2666

HOUSECLEANING With Care! Reliable, experienced. Attention to your needs. Excellent references. Jane 937-5928, pager 340-9295

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Public Notices

March 8, 1997
Statement was filed with County Clerk of Contra Costa County on March 6, 1997.
The Journal March 20, 27, April 3, 10, 1997
Republiah April 17, 1997

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 97-1230
The Name of the Business:
Basket Case, 110 Sims Rd., Oakley, CA 94561
is registered by the following owner:
Michelle R. Cipriani, 110 Sims Rd., Oakley, CA 94561
This business is conducted by an individual.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on February 26, 1997.
Statement was filed with County Clerk of Contra Costa County on February 26, 1997.
The Journal March 20, 27, April 3, 10, 1997
Republiah April 17, 1997

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 97-1105
The Name of the Business:
Bay Computers, 3252 Burning Tree Dr., San Ramon, CA 94583
is registered by the following owner:
Jeff Montague, 3252 Burning Tree Dr., San Ramon, CA 94583
This business is conducted by an individual.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on February 20, 1997.
Statement was filed with County Clerk of Contra Costa County on February 20, 1997.
The Journal March 20, 27, April 3, 10, 1997
Republiah April 17, 1997

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 97-1254
The Name of the Business:
Corner Club, 780 A Point Chicago Hwy, Bay Point, CA 94565
is registered by the following owner:
Craig Watson, 110 Tammy Cir., Bay Point, CA 94565
This business is conducted by an individual.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on February 27, 1997.
Statement was filed with County Clerk of Contra Costa County on February 27, 1997.
The Journal March 20, 27, April 3, 10, 1997
Republiah April 17, 1997

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 97-1348
The Name of the Business:
1) CyberPiper Enterprises, 2) Cadpiper Power Users, 3) CPU, 3660 Sun View Way, Concord, CA 94520. Mailing Address: P.O. Box 8567, Concord, CA 94520
Are registered by the following owner:
Mark Annis, 3660 Sun View Way, Concord, CA 94520
This business is conducted by an individual.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on March 3, 1997.
Statement was filed with County Clerk of Contra Costa County on March 3, 1997.
The Journal March 20, 27, April 3, 10, 1997
Republiah April 17, 1997

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 97-1057
The Name of the Business:
European Stone Technology, 3400 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Suite 12, Lafayette, CA 94549
is registered by the following owner:
Hilario Sabado, 90 Modera Ct., Danville, CA 94526
This business is conducted by an individual.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on February 19, 1997.
Statement was filed with County Clerk of Contra Costa County on February 19, 1997.
The Journal March 20, 27, April 3, 10, 1997
Republiah April 17, 1997

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 97-1253
The Name of the Business:
J.L.D. Enterprises, 3579 Terrace Way, #28, Lafayette, CA 94549
is registered by the following owner:
Jeffrey Lynn DeSables, 3579 Terrace Way, #28, Lafayette, CA 94549
This business is conducted by individuals - Husband and Wife.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on February 21, 1997.
Statement was filed with County Clerk of Contra Costa County on February 21, 1997.
The Journal March 20, 27, April 3, 10, 1997
Republiah April 17, 1997

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 97-1541
The Name of the Business:
J Wood, 5327 Jacuzzi St., #45, Richmond, CA 94804
is registered by the following owner:
Charles Tai, 6335 Stockton Ave., El Cerrito, CA 94530
This business is conducted by an individual.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on March 12, 1997.
Statement was filed with County Clerk of Contra Costa County on March 12, 1997.
The Journal March 20, 27, April 3, 10, 1997
Republiah April 17, 1997

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 97-1054
The Name of the Business:
JVJ International, 4411 Sugarland Ct., Concord, CA 94521
is registered by the following owner:
Valerie Ann Gray, 4411 Sugarland Ct., Concord, CA 94521
This business is conducted by an individual - Husband and Wife.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on February 19, 1997.
Statement was filed with County Clerk of Contra Costa County on February 19, 1997.
The Journal March 20, 27, April 3, 10, 1997
Republiah April 17, 1997

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 97-1471
The Name of the Business:
Nissaloff Company, 1601 Broadway St., #608, Concord, CA 94520
is registered by the following owner:
Gina Nissaloff, 1601 Broadway St., #608, Concord, CA 94520
This business is conducted by an individual.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on March 10, 1997.
Statement was filed with County Clerk of Contra Costa County on March 10, 1997.
The Journal March 20, 27, April 3, 10, 1997
Republiah April 17, 1997

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 97-1471
The Name of the Business:
Nissaloff Company, 1601 Broadway St., #608, Concord, CA 94520
is registered by the following owner:
Gina Nissaloff, 1601 Broadway St., #608, Concord, CA 94520
This business is conducted by an individual.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on March 10, 1997.
Statement was filed with County Clerk of Contra Costa County on March 10, 1997.
The Journal March 20, 27, April 3, 10, 1997
Republiah April 17, 1997

T.S. No. C-34008-C Loan No. 000407441-7 Notice Of Trustee's Sale You Are In Default Under A Deed Of Trust Dated 12/28/94 To United You Take Action To Protect Your Property. If You Must Sell At A Public Sale, If You Need An Explanation Of The Nature Of The Proceeding Against You, You Should Contact A Lawyer. A public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash, cashier's check drawn on a state or national bank, check drawn by a state or federal credit union, or a check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, or savings association, or savings bank specified in Section 5102 of the Financial Code and authorized to do business in this state will be held by the duly appointed trustee as shown below, at all right, title, and interest conveyed to and now held by the trustee in the heretofore described property under and pursuant to a Deed of Trust described below. The sale will be made, but without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to the remaining principal sum of the note(s) secured by the Deed of Trust, with interest and late charges thereon, as provided in the note(s), advances, under the terms of the Deed of Trust, interest thereon, fees, charges and expenses of the trustee for the total price of (at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale) reasonably estimated to be set forth below. The amount may be greater on the day of sale. Trustor: Chao Neng Chen And Yi Chi Chen, Husband And Wife Duly Appointed Trustee: Executive Trustee Services, Inc. Recorded 1/15/98: Instrument No. 88 7959-10, Page 1425, page 437 of Official Records in the Office of the Recorder of Contra Costa County, California. Date of Sale: 4/23/97 at 10:00 AM Place of Sale: At The Main Street Entrance To The City Hall, 1668 N. Main Street, Walnut Creek, California 94597. The balance and other charges: \$87,578.09. Street address: 675 Humboldt Street, Richmond, California 94805. Phone #: 519-040-005. The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for inaccuracy of the street address or other information designated, if any, shown above. If no street address or other common designation is shown, directions to the location of the property may be obtained by sending a written request to the beneficiary within 10 days of the date of first

Public Notices

publication of this Notice of Sale. Date: March 14, 1997. Executive Trustee Services, Inc. 1545 San Fernando Mission Blvd Suite #208 Mission Hills, CA 91345 (818) 361-4888 Candy Herzog C254829 43, 410, 417 1997
The Journal April 3, 10, 17, 1997

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 97-1397
The Name of the Business:
Access Internet Consulting, 1290 Oakshire Ct., Walnut Creek, CA 94598
is registered by the following owner:
Barry A. Lowenthal, 1290 Oakshire Ct., Walnut Creek, CA 94598
This business is conducted by a General Partnership.
The registrants commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on March 5, 1997.
Statement was filed with County Clerk of Contra Costa County on March 5, 1997.
The Journal April 3, 10, 17, 24, 1997

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 97-1401
The Name of the Business:
L.D. Media, 2915 Lane Drive, Concord, CA 94518
is registered by the following owner:
Luke De Santos, 2915 Lane Drive, Concord, CA 94518
This business is conducted by an individual.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on March 5, 1997.
Statement was filed with County Clerk of Contra Costa County on March 5, 1997.
The Journal April 3, 10, 17, 24, 1997

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 97-1939
The Name of the Business:
A Basket Full, 14 Casa Verde Way, Pittsburg, CA 94565
is registered by the following owner:
Patricia Hicks, 14 Casa Verde Way, Pittsburg, CA 94565
This business is conducted by an individual - Husband and Wife.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on March 27, 1997.
Statement was filed with County Clerk of Contra Costa County on March 27, 1997.
The Journal April 3, 10, 17, 24, 1997

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 97-1601
The Name of the Business:
Derek's Painting and Wallpapering, 1420 Apple Dr., Concord, CA 94518
is registered by the following owner:
Derek Ryszard Dziaduch, 1420 Apple Dr., Concord, CA 94518
This business is conducted by an individual.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on March 13, 1997.
Statement was filed with County Clerk of Contra Costa County on March 13, 1997.
The Journal April 3, 10, 17, 24, 1997

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 97-1502
The Name of the Business:
CYBERSYS, 1960 Beacon Ridge, Walnut Creek, CA 94598
is registered by the following owner:
Amir Hourmatarian, 1960 Beacon Ridge, Walnut Creek, CA 94598
This business is conducted by an individual.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on March 11, 1997.
Statement was filed with County Clerk of Contra Costa County on March 11, 1997.
The Journal April 3, 10, 17, 24, 1997

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 97-1600
The Name of the Business:
1) Strategic Solutions 2) Strategic Information Group, 235 Behrens Street, El Cerrito, CA 94530
Are registered by the following owners:
John Zakaria, 235 Behrens Street, El Cerrito, CA 94530
Julie Lim, 235 Behrens Street, El Cerrito, CA 94530
This business is conducted by individuals - Husband and Wife.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on March 13, 1997.
Statement was filed with County Clerk of Contra Costa County on March 13, 1997.
The Journal April 3, 10, 17, 24, 1997

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 97-1472
The Name of the Business:
Heaton Limousine Service, 4685 Larist Lane, Oakley, CA 94661. P.O. Box 4366, Antioch, CA 94531-4366
is registered by the following owners:
Monna Heaton, 1600 Mission Dr., Antioch, CA 94530
Donna Heaton, 1600 Mission Dr., Antioch, CA 94530
This business is conducted by individuals - Husband and Wife.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on March 10, 1997.
Statement was filed with County Clerk of Contra Costa County on March 10, 1997.
The Journal April 3, 10, 17, 24, 1997

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 97-1543
The Name of the Business:
1) Sugar Happy Diabetes Supplies 2) GlucoMed Systems, 624 Miranda Creek Ct., Alamo, CA 94507
Are registered by the following owners:
Debra Elliott, 624 Miranda Creek Ct., Alamo, CA 94507
Clarke Stillman Elliott, 624 Miranda Creek Ct., Alamo, CA 94507
This business is conducted by individuals - Husband and Wife.
The registrants commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on March 12, 1997.
Statement was filed with County Clerk of Contra Costa County on March 12, 1997.
The Journal April 3, 10, 17, 24, 1997

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 97-1353
The Name of the Business:
Kathleen Sullivan - Clinical Research Consulting, 416 Tulare Street, El Cerrito, CA 94530
is registered by the following owner:
Kathleen D. Sullivan, 416 Tulare Street, El Cerrito, CA 94530
This business is conducted by an individual.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on March 4, 1997.
Statement was filed with County Clerk of Contra Costa County on March 4, 1997.
The Journal April 3, 10, 17, 24, 1997

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 97-1991
The Name of the Business:
Depot Triangle Properties, 1300 South 51st Street, Richmond, CA 94804
is registered by the following owner:
Steven H. Oliver, 340 Lombard St., San Francisco, CA 94133
Ronald and Joan Fadilli, 629 Murray Lane, Lafayette, CA 94549
Andrew and Patricia Fadelli, 8765 Terrace Drive, El Cerrito, CA 94530
William and Doris Chambers, 839 Cerro St., Albany, CA 94706
Don and Mary Jacobs, 4628 Borgia Ave., Fremont, CA 94538
Jack Woodson, 678 Toyon Place, Palo Alto, CA 94306
Jon and Kirsten Legallat, 1401 Griffith St., San Francisco, CA 94124
Paul Vincent, 1086 Arlington, El Cerrito, CA 94530
John Legallat, 1401 Griffith Ave., San Francisco, CA 94124
Florence V.J. Pennebaker, 2501 Palomino Court, West Union, OH 97068
Joshua H. Oliver, 954 Federal St., San Francisco, CA 94105
This business is conducted by a General Partnership.
The registrants commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on August 25, 1992.
Statement was filed with County Clerk of Contra Costa County on March 28, 1997.
The Journal April 10, 17, 24, May 1, 1997

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 97-1991
The Name of the Business:
New Group Company, 3645 Sanford St., Concord, CA 94520
is registered by the following owner:
Jack (Jack) Matsuyaki, 1778 Laguna St., #202, Concord, CA 94520

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 97-1991
The Name of the Business:
Victorious Foundation, 1792 Manor Circle, El Cerrito, CA 94530
is registered by the following owner:
Lon Chapman, 1792 Manor Circle, El Cerrito, CA 94530
This business is conducted by an individual.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on March 21, 1997.
Statement was filed with County Clerk of Contra Costa County on March 21, 1997.
The Journal April 10, 17, 24, May 1, 1997

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 97-1991
The Name of the Business:
Victorious Foundation, 1792 Manor Circle, El Cerrito, CA 94530
is registered by the following owner:
Lon Chapman, 1792 Manor Circle, El Cerrito, CA 94530
This business is conducted by an individual.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on March 21, 1997.
Statement was filed with County Clerk of Contra Costa County on March 21, 1997.
The Journal April 10, 17, 24, May 1, 1997

Public Notices

Mark M. Piskarski, 3617 Sanford St., Concord, CA 94520
Sharon R. Bidney, 3645 Sanford St., Concord, CA 94520
This business is conducted by Co-partners.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on March 10, 1997.
Statement was filed with County Clerk of Contra Costa County on March 10, 1997.
The Journal April 10, 17, 24, May 1, 1997

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 97-1514
The Name of the Business:
EUROCLASSIC, 1563 Third Ave., Walnut Creek, CA 94598
is registered by the following owner:
Michael A. Khatzichris, 1244 Walker Ave., #212, Walnut Creek, CA 94596
This business is conducted by an individual.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on March 11, 1997.
Statement was filed with County Clerk of Contra Costa County on March 11, 1997.
The Journal April 10, 17, 24, May 1, 1997

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 97-1555
The Name of the Business:
Wordscape Travel Services, 26 La Vista Way, Danville, CA 94506
is registered by the following owner:
Christina, 36 La Vista Way, Danville, CA 94506
This business is conducted by an individual.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed here on March 12, 1992.
Statement was filed with County Clerk of Contra Costa County on March 12, 1997.
The Journal April 10, 17, 24, May 1, 1997

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 97-1555
The Name of the Business:
Icon Telecommunications, 233 W. Buchanan Rd., #56, Pittsburg, CA 94565
is registered by the following owner:
Andrea Lawrence, 233 W. Buchanan Rd., #56, Pittsburg, CA 94565
This business is conducted by an individual.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed here on March 12, 1997.
Statement was filed with County Clerk of Contra Costa County on March 12, 1997.
The Journal April 10, 17, 24, May 1, 1997

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 97-1632
The Name of the Business:
Yeddi's Styles, 1372 N. Main Street #107, Walnut Creek, CA 94596
is registered by the following owner:
Jadriana Pinter, 502 Oak Park Blvd., Pleasant Hill, CA 94523
This business is conducted by an individual.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on March 14, 1997.
Statement was filed with County Clerk of Contra Costa County on March 14, 1997.
The Journal April 10, 17, 24, May 1, 1997

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 97-1618
The Name of the Business:
Classic Electric, 4024 Sheffield Way, Antioch, CA 94509
is registered by the following owner:
Michael Cleveland Moore, 4024 Sheffield Way, Antioch, CA 94509
This business is conducted by an individual.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on March 14, 1997.
Statement was filed with County Clerk of Contra Costa County on March 14, 1997.
The Journal April 10, 17, 24, May 1, 1997

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 97-1657
The Name of the Business:
California Equity Real Estate, 385 Hertz Avenue, Danville, CA 94526
is registered by the following owners:
Robert Eckert, 2405 Dornington Ct., Modesto, CA 95350
Lisa Negale, 5713 La Granda Way, Danville, CA 94526
This business is conducted by a General Partnership.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on March 7, 1997.
Statement was filed with County Clerk of Contra Costa County on March 7, 1997.
The Journal April 10, 17, 24, May 1, 1997

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 97-1750
The Name of the Business:
Boyd & Associates, 537 Columbia Creek Drive, San Ramon, CA 94583
is registered by the following owner:
Leigh E. Boyd, 537 Columbia Creek Drive, San Ramon, CA 94583
This business is conducted by an individual.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on March 1, 1997.
Statement was filed with County Clerk of Contra Costa County on March 1, 1997.
The Journal April 10, 17, 24, May 1, 1997

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 97-1767
The Name of the Business:
Herbal Abundance, 5711 Burlingame Ave., Richmond, CA 94804
is registered by the following owner:
Ann P. McInelly, 5711 Burlingame Ave., Richmond, CA 94804
This business is conducted by an individual.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on March 1, 1997.
Statement was filed with County Clerk of Contra Costa County on March 1, 1997.
The Journal April 10, 17, 24, May 1, 1997

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 97-1768
The Name of the Business:
Rube Anita's, 5711 Burlingame Ave., Richmond, CA 94804
is registered by the following owner:
Ann P. McInelly, 5711 Burlingame Ave., Richmond, CA 94804
This business is conducted by an individual.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on March 1, 1997.
Statement was filed with County Clerk of Contra Costa County on March 1, 1997.
The Journal April 10, 17, 24, May 1, 1997

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This business is conducted by an individual.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on March 1, 1997.
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The Journal April 10, 17, 24, May 1, 1997

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The Journal April 10, 17, 24, May 1, 1997

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This business is conducted by an individual.
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The Journal April 10, 17, 24, May 1, 1997

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This business is conducted by an individual.
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The Journal April 10, 17, 24, May 1, 1997

Public Notices

Strat Answers Marketing Communications, 5333 Park Highlands Blvd., Apt. 27, Concord, CA 94521 3/17
is registered by the following owner:
Charles David Strat, 5333 Park Highlands Blvd., #27, Concord, CA 94521
This business is conducted by an individual.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on April 1, 1997.
Statement was filed with County Clerk of Contra Costa County on April 1, 1997.
The Journal April 10, 17, 24, May 1, 1997

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 97-1681
The Name of the Business:
Steve Florence Trucking, 155 Kendall Rd., Walnut Creek, CA 94596
is registered by the following owner:
Steven R. Florence, 155 Kendall Rd., Walnut Creek, CA 94596
This business is conducted by an individual.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on March 19, 1997.
Statement was filed with County Clerk of Contra Costa County on March 19, 1997.
The Journal April 17, 24, May 1, 8, 1997

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 97-1604
The Name of the Business:
Reliable Services, 1931 Ralston Ave., Richmond, CA 94805
is registered by the following owner:
Maria Lillana Silva, 1931 Ralston Ave., Richmond, CA 94805
This business is conducted by an individual.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on March 19, 1997.
Statement was filed with County Clerk of Contra Costa County on March 19, 1997.
The Journal April 17, 24, May 1, 8, 1997

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 97-1751
The Name of the Business:
Bubbles, 10568 San Pablo Ave., El Cerrito, CA 94530
is registered by the following owner:
Hilaria Seltzer, 6133 Rose Arbor Ave., San Pablo, CA 94606
This business is conducted by an individual.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on March 19, 1997.
Statement was filed with County Clerk of Contra Costa County on March 19, 1997.
The Journal April 17, 24, May 1, 8, 1997

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 97-1474
The Name of the Business:
Express Grls, 440 Drake St., Antioch, CA 94509
is registered by the following owner:
Janell Orozco, 440 Drake St., Antioch, CA 94509
This business is conducted by an individual.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on March 10, 1997.
Statement was filed with County Clerk of Contra Costa County on March 10, 1997.
The Journal April 10, 17, 24, May 1, 8, 1997

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 97-1634
The Name of the Business:
DKZ Photography, 1882 Carlotia Dr., Concord, CA 94518
is registered by the following owner:
Debbie Ziegler, 1882 Carlotia Dr., Concord, CA 94518
This business is conducted by an individual.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on March 14, 1997.
Statement was filed with County Clerk of Contra Costa County on March 14, 1997.
The Journal April 10, 17, 24, May 1, 8, 1997

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 97-1559
The Name of the Business:
Absolute Filtration Plus, 4220 S. Castro St., Martinez, CA 94553. P.O. Box 2991, Martinez, CA 94553
is registered by the following owner:
Joyn Marie Siders, 4220 S. Castro St., Martinez, CA 94553
This business is conducted by an individual.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on March 12, 1997.
Statement was filed with County Clerk of Contra Costa County on March 12, 1997.
The Journal April 10, 17, 24, May 1, 8, 1997

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATE

To reach the editorial department, call 339-4060

Earth Day

Continued from front page

organic material would create nothing bad for the earth, would provide us with rich mulch for our gardens, and would get us eating more fresh fruits and vegetables. With rich soil and fertilizer, we could create flourishing gardens to get more fruits and vegetables whose scraps we could rot, continuing the process. A worm box is good too. Many worms inside the box eat scraps and produce soil very fast. Just keep it supplied with organic material and newspapers.

Conclusion

The world has much to be desired, but if we could just start doing even some of this, we would have a longer life expectancy, pollution would ease up, and fresh fruit and vegetables would make us stronger and more fit. The world would be better.

Davis Street Transfer Station By Michi Yamamoto

There's already way too much garbage on this world. We really need to take a step back and examine how much damage we've done to the earth. Reducing the amount of trash that we throw out will make a heavy impact on the world's pollution problems. When you're at the supermarket, bring cloth bags instead of using the paper bags where trees are wasted and plastic bags where they do not biodegrade very well. Recycling will always contribute to the earth's good fortune and you should at least try to recycle everything you possibly can. Close the loop! After you buy and drink a nice bottle of spring water, don't throw the bottle away. Why make it into a part of your disgusting garbage, when you can reuse it time and time again? But no, you need to have that refreshing taste of spring water. So you buy another bottle.

Recently, we've begun to run out of space for our filthy landfills, so what happens when we run out of space completely? If the landfills get closer and closer to where not only people, but animals too, live, the waste will eventually filter into rivers, oceans and our water supplies. Humans will not only be the ones to suffer, for the animals will have no clue to what has happened to their previous wonderful homes. Before you buy something from the store, stop and think... Is it relevant to have the pretty packaging, or is it more important to do the earth a good turn?

(Volunteers at the Middle school's community garden project will be planting and preparing soil on Sunday, April 20, from 9 a.m. to noon. Volunteers are welcome, and plots are still available. Those interested may bring tools, seeds and soil conditioners. The plot is behind the grove of redwoods behind the teen center. Call 559-6540.)

Someone attempted to take a stereo from a vehicle parked in a bank lot in the 10400 block of San Pablo Avenue at 3 p.m. April 9.

Police

Continued from page 2

Someone attempted to take a stereo from a vehicle parked in a bank lot in the 10400 block of San Pablo Avenue at 3 p.m. April 9.

An attempted entry into a car was reported in the 6700 block of Hagen Boulevard April 5 or 6; nothing was reported stolen. Nothing was taken from a car parked in the 6500 block of Hagen Boulevard overnight April 3. The glovebox was ransacked, and an attempt was made to remove the indash stereo, but nothing was taken.

Another attempted auto burglary was reported in the 2600 block of Tulare overnight March 31. A window was broken and the door opened; nothing was stolen. The car was parked in a residential driveway.

Someone dented the fender of a vehicle parked in the 400 block of Colusa April 2 or 3.

Police responded to four domestic incidents.

A bike and a disabled parking placard were turned in to the lost and found.

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1-80 Bicycle/Pedestrian Bridge
Alternative Locations And Alignments

Saturday, April 19, 1997

10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

James Kenney Recreation Center (entrance on the south end, take the ramp up past the tot lot)

8th and Delaware, Berkeley

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FRISKIES BUFFET Canned Cat Food
5.5 Oz. All Varieties
Limit 10 Cans with coupon
Limit One Coupon Per Family
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16 Lb. Jug • Regular • Limit 2 Jugs • with coupon
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St. Paul's Towers Pioneers New Seniors Fitness Program with Oakland YMCA

At St. Paul's Towers in Oakland, many active retired men and women are excited

about a brand new fitness program designed specifically for seniors, in partnership with the

downtown Oakland YMCA. The "St. Paul's Towers at the Y" program includes supervised water and fitness activities for residents. These exercise programs offer many health benefits and are ideal methods of improving and maintaining good physical and mental well-being.

For a nominal fee of \$5, St. Paul's Towers residents who elect to participate in the program have the opportunity to use the YMCA's six-lane, 25-meter swimming pool as well as all the other extensive fitness facilities at the Y. A full schedule of senior water and fitness classes, offered throughout the week, is open exclusively to seniors from St. Paul's Towers and the YMCA. Door-to-door transportation

from St. Paul's Towers to the YMCA and back offers participants added convenience.

YMCA fitness instructors will work with each of the new St. Paul's Towers members to help them develop an exercise program to meet their individual goals in a safe, fun and effective manner. Depending on individual experience and preferences, residents can select from classes in water aerobics or water walking. In addition, there is also the freedom to enjoy unstructured lap swimming. For those who are beginning an exercise program, a special "Sit and Be Fit" class is a safe and effective way to prepare for higher intensity activities.

This new program is just one

of the many components of the active lifestyle residents enjoy at St. Paul's Towers. Frequently scheduled social and cultural activities also contribute to a superior quality of life. The proximity of this vital community to some of the Bay Area's best museums, theaters and music venues makes it an ideal location for those who enjoy and value these cultural resources.

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AGE	RATE	AGE	RATE
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68	7.5%	82	9.8%
70	7.7%	84	10.2%
72	7.9%	86	10.8%
74	8.2%	88	11.4%
76	8.5%	90	12.0%
78	9.0%		



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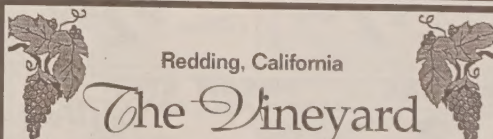
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away from it all...

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the Bay Area

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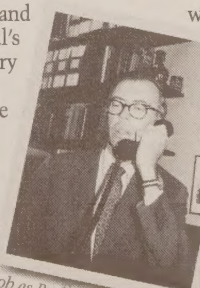
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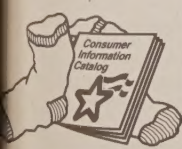
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Buttons

Continued from front page

tion of a 93-year-old woman who'd carefully recorded all the information she had on each piece: an "1850 plain back Liberty Head," for example, and "Goodyear American" buttons from 1850, 1851 and 1860. There were 100 cards, some holding 30 to 40 buttons each.

But no one can compete with him when it comes to what are more strictly defined as "vintage" buttons. Two walls in the shop are stocked with hundreds of buttons dating from the 1900s to the 1940s, all on their original cards. Two others are filled with buttons from the '50s and '60s. Not to mention drawers filled with buttons sorted by color and material, and a stock room packed to the rafter with boxes and boxes of inventory.

Sortile estimates he has a stock totalling 10 million.

It's truly a unique place, and one that's been nationally covered in various needlework and crafting magazines. (It's even listed on the InterNet under "Buttons," though Sortile doesn't know how it got there.)

Still, Sortile's found that some people just haven't heard of him.

One woman met a visitor from Los Angeles on a plane and asked her where in Southern California she'd found the beautiful buttons she was carrying with her. She told her they were from El Cerrito.

"I told her she was mistaken," the woman said to Sortile when she visited the store herself the next day. "I live just around the corner, and I never knew it existed."

It's a common story among locals, though the shop's been open on San Pablo Avenue several days a week for the past 16 years.

It took Sortile some time to decide just what his life calling actually was. He started out as a barber, working alongside his brother in his parents' Berkeley shop. It was 40 years ago.

"I didn't like it," Sortile remembers. "Any time anyone came into the shop, we'd start talking and I'd ask them about what they did. When I said I thought I might like doing that, they'd introduce me to their boss."

Sortile's barber shop conversations led to a number of job tries, but they didn't last.

"I'd do it for a year or two, and then I'd quit," he says. "Then I'd go back to the shop."

Eventually, he and Mary ended up in the dry cleaning business together. She ran the business on Gilman Street; he operated a press shop in San Leandro. A chance meeting with a button distributor changed his life.

The distributor had noticed some cloth-covered buttons made by a local seamstress while at the cleaning establishment. He asked where he could find more for distribution to the variety shops he serviced.

"Who buys buttons?" Sortile asked him.

"Here's my card," was the response. "Come, and I'll show you."

Visiting variety stores convinced Sortile that there was indeed a viable button market out there.

"I saw the possibilities, and that night I talked them over with my wife," he said.

Sortile was hooked.

He got a job with the distributor, who had 15 stores at the time.

"After seven years, I'd built that up to 135 stores," said Sortile. "Then, he called me into his office and said, 'Vince, you're making more money than me. I'm going to cut your commission.'"

Sortile quit and decided to follow his wife's suggestion to go into business for himself.

He had all the right contacts. His customers went with him. All but the original 15, that is; he felt it would be unfair to spirit them away. "But they all came back to me after a year," he says.)

His employer had left some suppliers because of their prices. With 20 years' experience and a built-in clientele, Sortile had no trouble filling out his inventory on credit. Suppliers were willing to wait for his payments as he built up his business. ("I paid them back as fast as I could," he says.)

Since that time, back in the 1960s, Sortile has been a wholesaler. He has his own company, Exclusive Buttons. He also couldn't have timed things better for tapping into a great source (and an unexpected one) for rounding out his inventory.

He decided to open a shop, devoting just two days a week to filling variety store racks with his wares.

"Then the five- and 10-cent stores started going out of business," he says. "Eventually, I was back down to just 15 stores."

Sortile was also buying up all the button stock from the closing stores. Thousands of the buttons he obtained were already 40 and 50 years old when he got them.

"At one point I had two garages full," he says. "You had to access everything with a six-foot ladder."

In the meantime, his El Cerrito button shop was becoming better-known. He'd opened Exclusive Buttons at 10252 San Pablo Avenue 16 years ago; he's been there ever since, and the shop just gets more and more popular.

"I never thought it would go over," he says. "It's just unbelievable."

Variety and affordable prices

have to be among the keys to the shop's success. Customers are amazed when they can buy a glass button from the 1920s for \$1.50, a vintage card from the teams for \$2 or \$3. Even the true antiques beat most antique store prices.

"I'm a wholesaler," says Sortile, who owns the Exclusive Buttons line that's well-represented with buttons from the 1950s and '60s. "I have to buy in five- to 10-gross lots from the mill. I have thousands of buttons, and I like to deal in quantity to keep the stock moving."

He also continues to commission buttons for manufacture. The key, he says, is offer items that are functional and can be used in more than one way. He points to his "metals" inventory as a good example. There are thousands of buttons created from a variety of metals, including newly-crafted pewter. Many are of classic design that could be used on a wide variety of garments.

Sortile loves helping people find what they need, and he never seems to tire of working with his tiny inventory. There's actually only been one drawback to his life's work. He's developed carpal tunnel syn-

drome (and had to have an operation on his wrist) from all the sorting.

One of the other joys of work for both Vince and Mary, who call themselves "semi-retired," is to meet different people and to hear their stories.

Several months ago, a woman and her husband flew to Oakland from Seattle, rented a car and drove to the shop. It was the sole reason for their visit. She's a jewelry maker who uses vintage and antique buttons to design one-of-a-kind pieces. After buying \$400 worth of buttons, she reluctantly went home.

"She kept heading to the door, and then saying, 'Wait a minute, look at this!'" says Sortile. He and Mary agree that it was her husband who kept the limit even at \$400. They also agree that the woman will absolutely get her money back — covering her purchases and the plane trip — when she's finished her pins.

Antique and vintage buttons have tremendous current popularity, although you have to be careful how you advertise them. A yellow pages ad caused tremendous confusion to some readers.

"I'd have people calling in saying they wanted hundreds of buttons in a couple of days," he says. "They wanted the badge-type buttons, and when I said we carried apparel buttons, they often didn't know what I meant."

"Apparently that's a word some people just don't use anymore," adds Mary Sortile. "We changed it to 'clothing.'"

Vince has plenty of interesting stories to tell himself, about his customers and his buttons.

Once, he was closing up shop (he keeps his own hours; call first), and a woman ran up to him. She said she used to live in the area but was now visiting from her new home in El Paso. Please, could he open up the shop again for her?

"I did, and eight other people travelling with her from El Paso followed her in," he says.

Another time, a big bus drove up and parked out front.

"It was a busload of 30 people, who had me on their sewing tour," he says. (No one had mentioned it to him.) "I told them it was a very small shop, and I could only let in six at a time. People were at the door telling their friends to hurry up

after they saw some people were buying buttons in the Santa Clara Valley."

Then there was a woman who came in for a button but was shocked to find a "snap on."

"You mean I had a needle and thread?" she asked incredulously. The woman he'd been unsuccessful in sewing attempt.

And ask him while making speeches on the stage. The most expensive can tell by counting the buttons on the sleeve of a hobby."

Sortile has another story to tell. One woman after were admiring a lovely woman's dress from 1910. They couldn't believe they wanted to buy it. "Another woman was chair resting and asking going to purchase it. She would. The first time it to her and told her as a child that when something more than give it to them," she said.

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